



WHOSE SIDE...
...ARE YOU ON?

THE MARVEL UNIVERSE IS CHANGING. IN THE WAKE OF A TRAGEDY, CAPITOL HILL PROPOSES THE SUPER HERO REGISTRATION ACT, REQUIRING ALL COSTUMED HEROES TO UNMASK THEMSELVES BEFORE THE GOVERNMENT. DIVIDED, THE NATION'S GREATEST CHAMPIONS MUST EACH DECIDE HOW TO REACT — A DECISION THAT WILL ALTER THE COURSE OF THEIR LIVES FOREVER!

COLLECTING *CIVIL WAR* #1-7, WRITTEN BY MARK MILLAR (*THE ULTIMATES*)
AND ILLUSTRATED BY STEVE MCNIVEN (*NEW AVENGERS*).

CIVIL WAR™

A MARVEL COMICS® EVENT

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CIVIL WARTM

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CIVIL WARTM

MARK MILLAR
STEVE MCNIVEN
DEXTER VINES
MORRY HOLLOWELL

A MARVEL COMICS® EVENT IN SEVEN PARTS

1



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MARVEL

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1

**CONTROL ROOM,
WTNH-CHANNEL 8:**

OKAY, HOW
MANY SUPER-VILLAINS
ARE WE TALKING
HERE, SPEEDBALL?

**STAMFORD,
CONNECTICUT:**

THREE. NO, WAIT. I THINK I SEE
COLDHEART IN THE BACKYARD EMPTYING
THE TRASH. THAT'S FOUR OF 'EM IN
TOTAL, AND ALL FOUR ARE ON THE FBI
MOST-WANTED LIST, RIGHT?

COBALT MAN, COLDHEART,
SPEEDFREEK, NITRO...YEP, THEY
ALL BROKE OUT OF RYKER'S THREE
MONTHS BACK, AND ALL OF THEM
HAVE RECORDS AS LONG AS
YOUR ARM.

COLDHEART FOUGHT
SPIDER-MAN A COUPLE
OF TIMES AND--GET THIS--
SPEEDFREEK ALMOST
TOOK DOWN THE
HULK.

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HE WHAT?

THESE GUYS ARE TOTALLY OUT OF OUR LEAGUE, MAN. NO WAY WE SHOULD BE GOING IN THERE.

BUT THINK ABOUT THE RATINGS, MICROBE. THIS COULD BE THE BEST EPISODE OF THE ENTIRE SECOND SEASON.



SIX MONTHS WE'VE BEEN DRIVING AROUND THE MIDWEST LOOKING FOR GOOFBALLS TO FIGHT, AND THE BEST WE'VE MANAGED SO FAR WAS A BUM WITH A SPRAY CAN AND A WOODEN LEG.

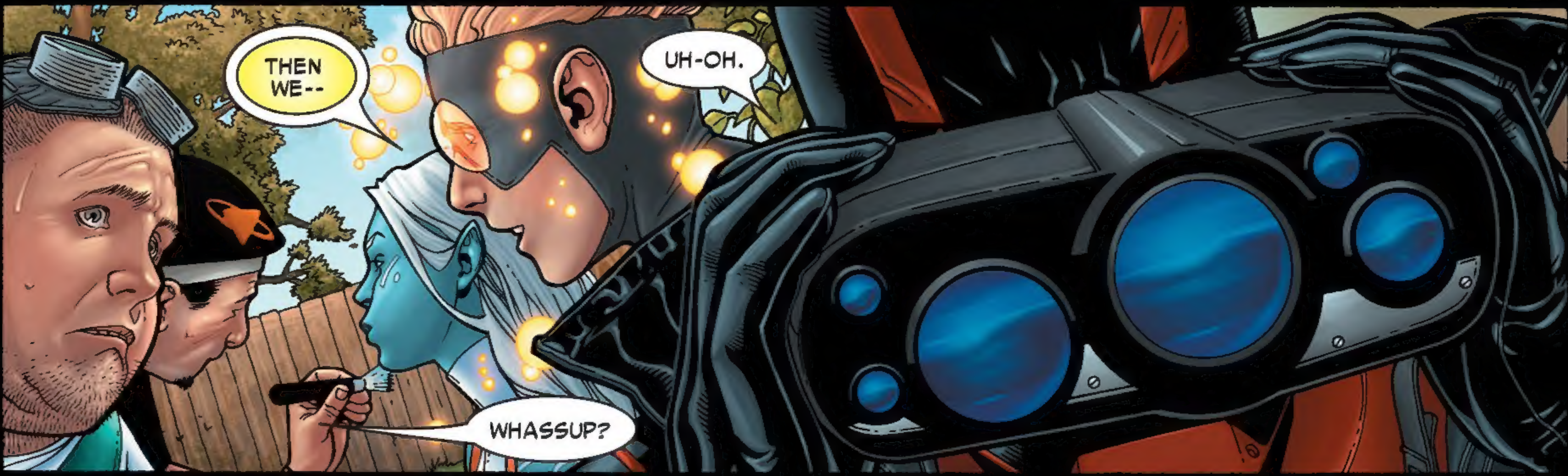
THIS COULD BE THE EPISODE THAT REALLY PUTS NEW WARRIORS ON THE MAP, DUDE. WE BEAT THESE GUYS AND PEOPLE STOP BITCHING ABOUT NOVA LEAVING THE SHOW TO GO BACK INTO SPACE.



SO WHAT'S THE PLAN?



THE PLAN IS YOU SPEND FIVE MORE MINUTES IN MAKEUP, NAMORITA. YOU THINK PEOPLE WANNA SEE THAT GREAT BIG UGLY ZIT ON YOUR CHIN?



THEN WE--

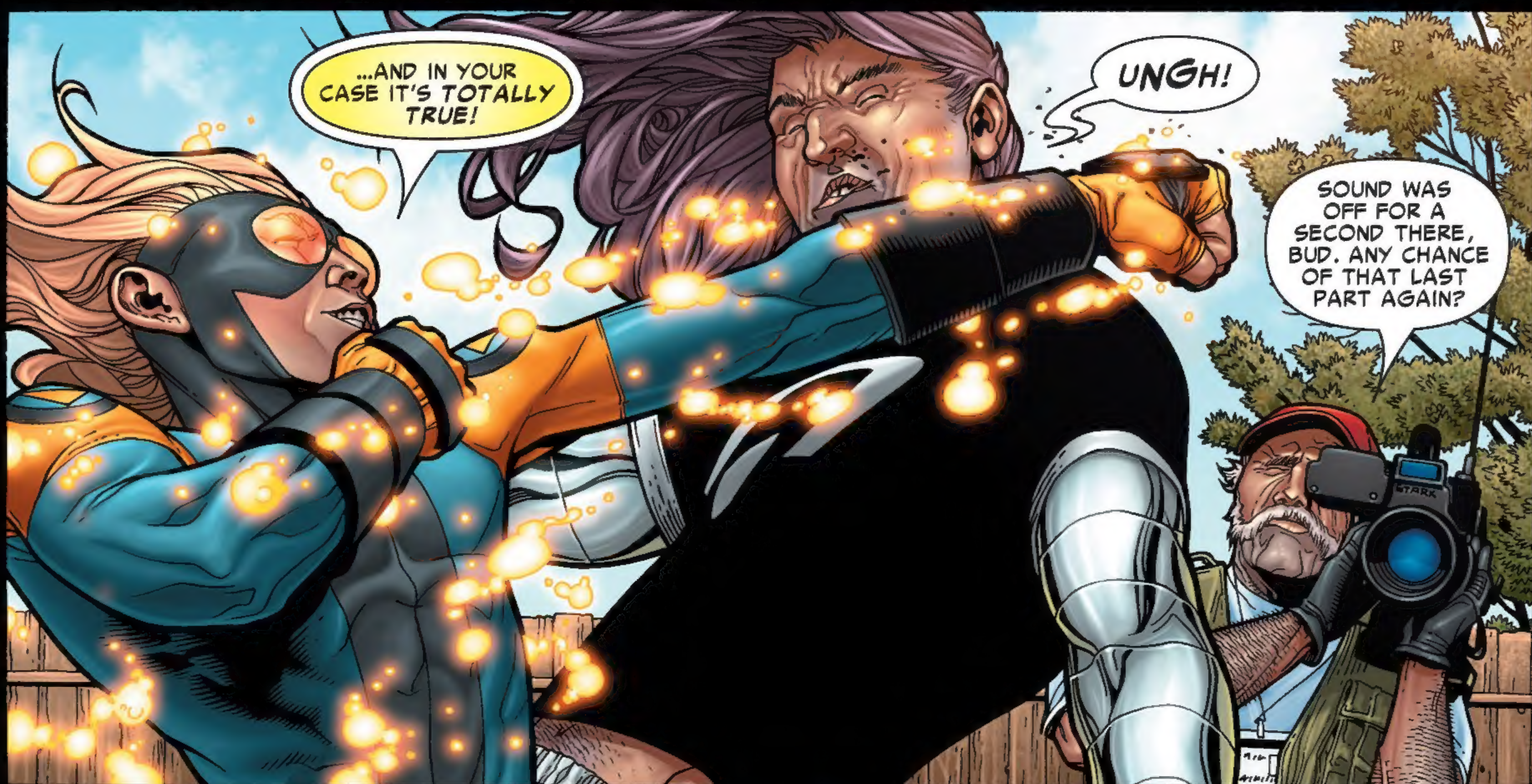
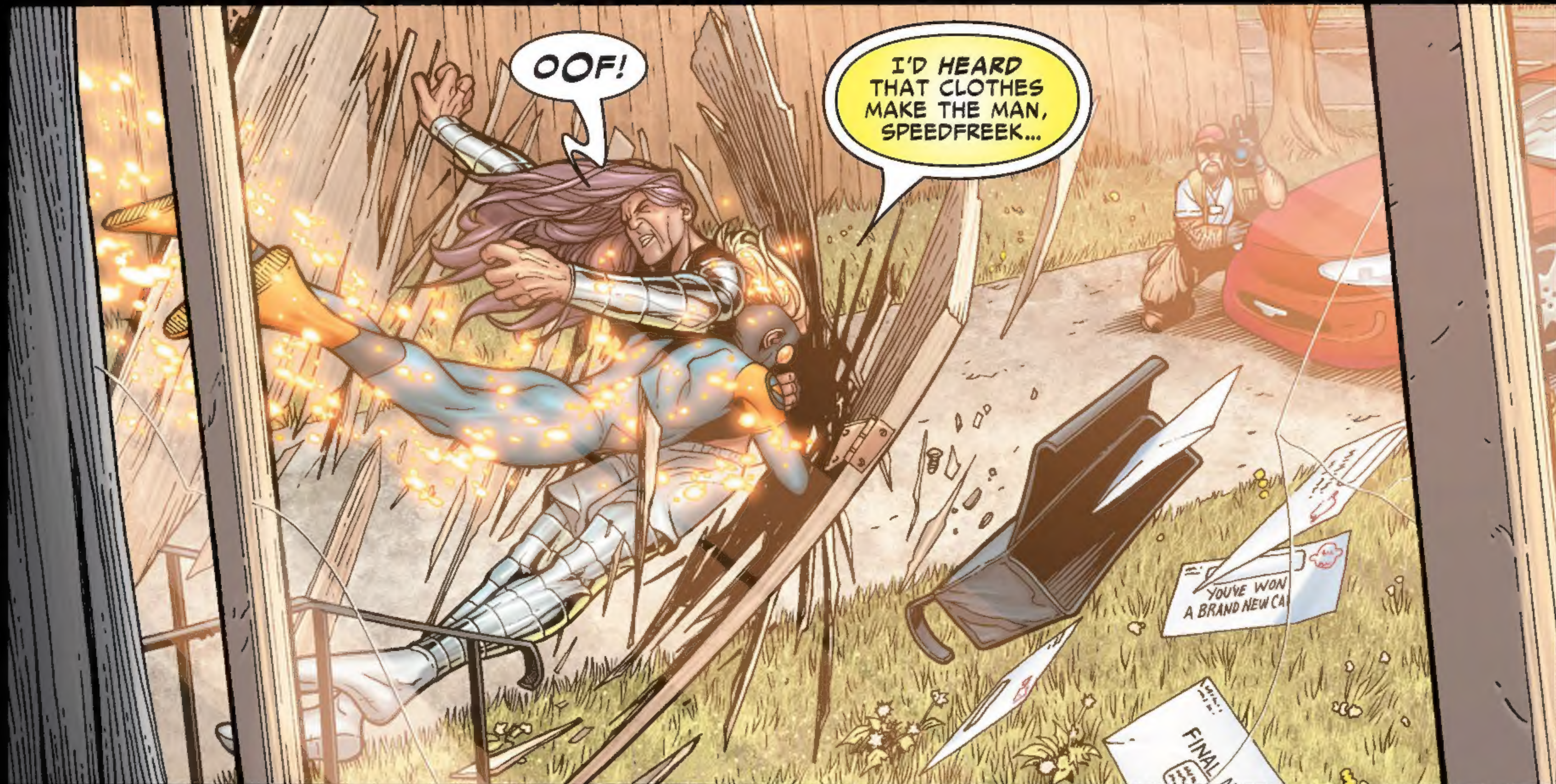
UH-OH.

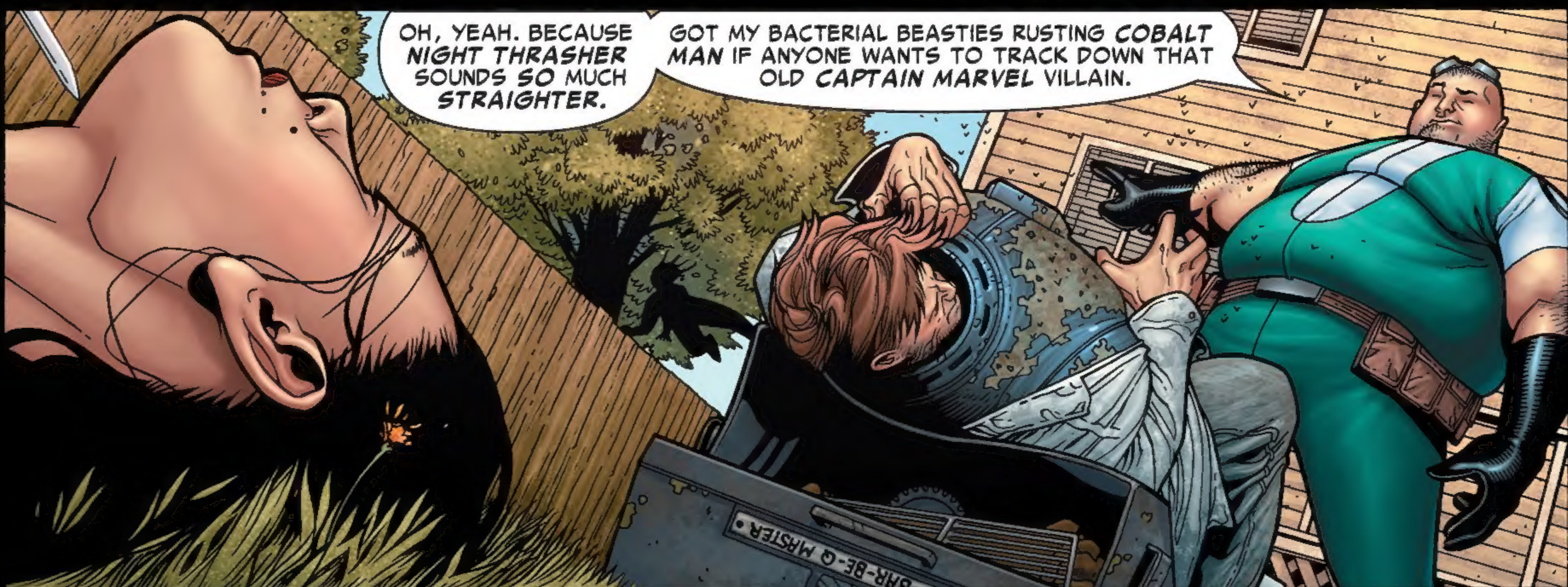
WHASSUP?

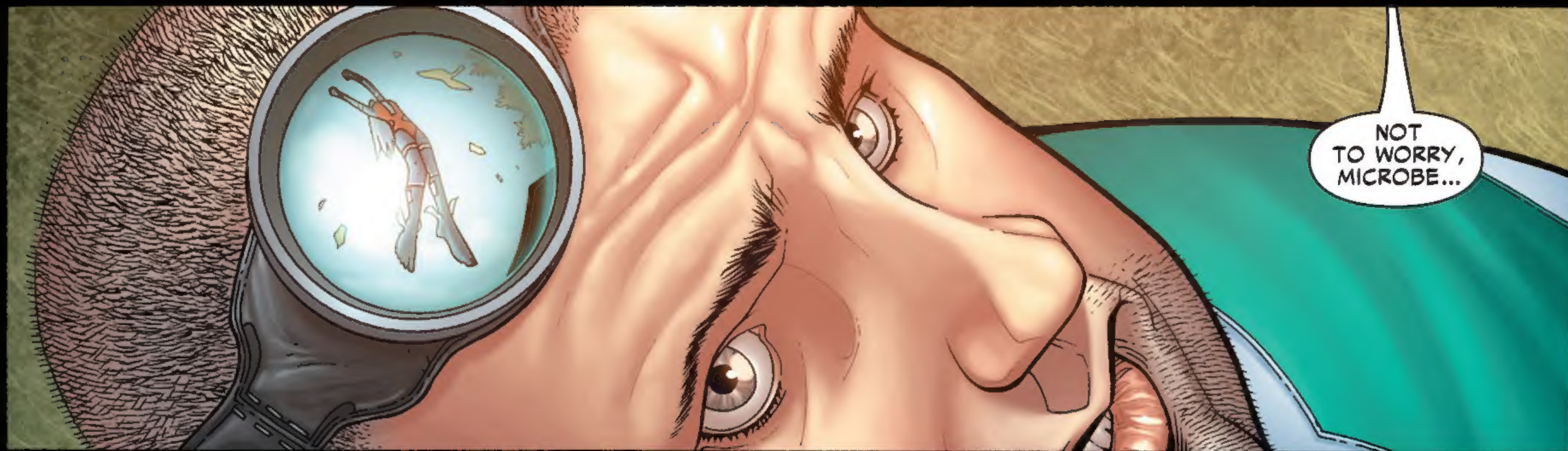


WE'VE BEEN MARKED.





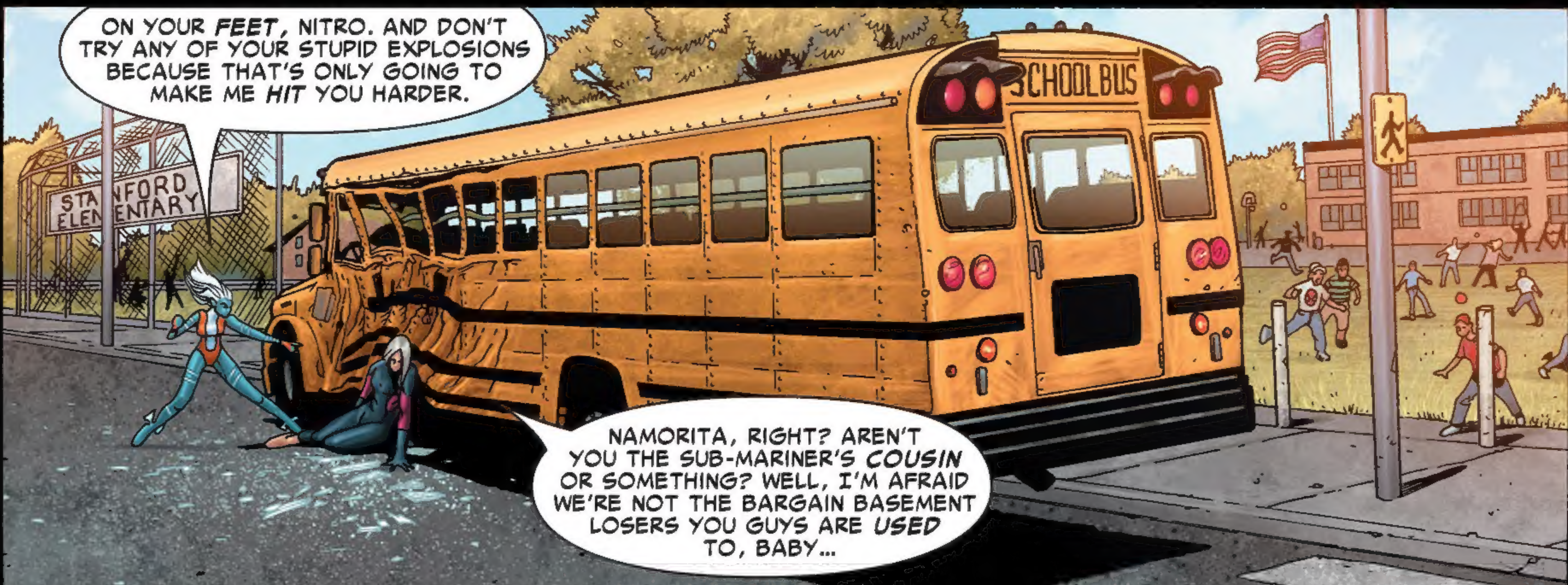




NOT
TO WORRY,
MICROBE...

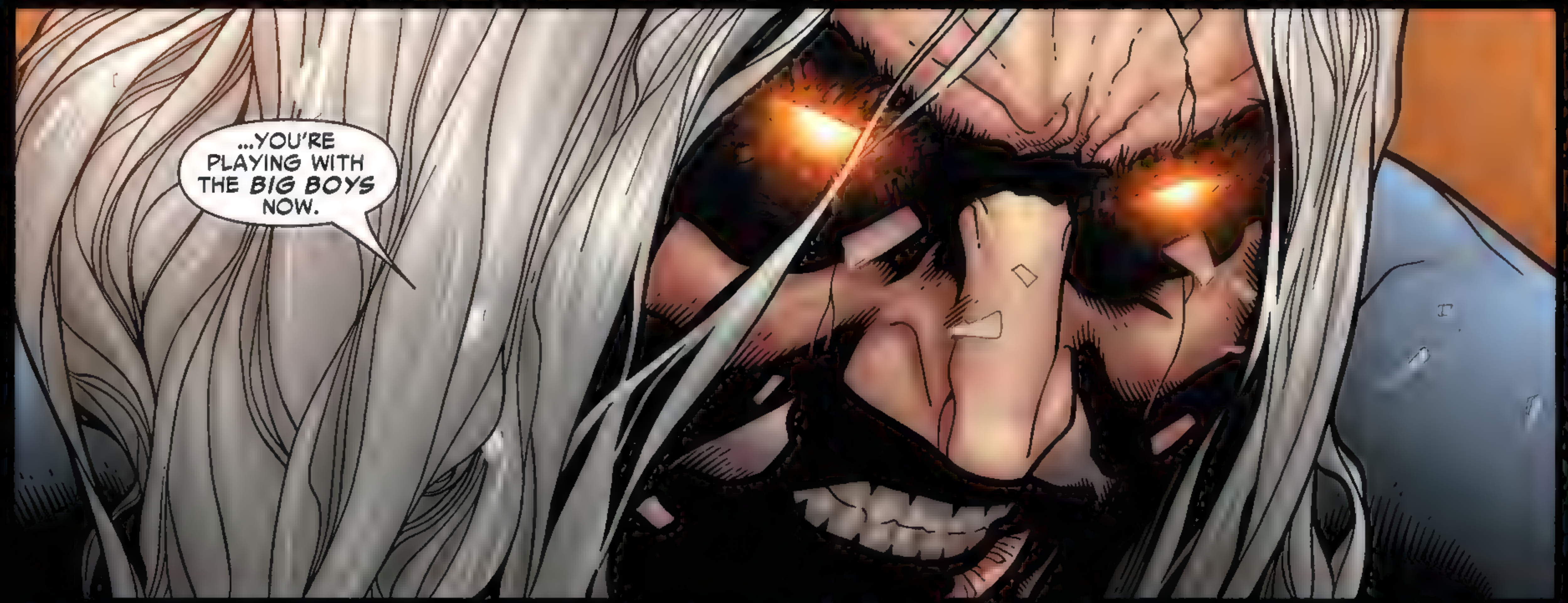


...I'M
ON IT.



ON YOUR **FEET**, NITRO. AND DON'T
TRY ANY OF YOUR STUPID EXPLOSIONS
BECAUSE THAT'S ONLY GOING TO
MAKE ME **HIT** YOU HARDER.

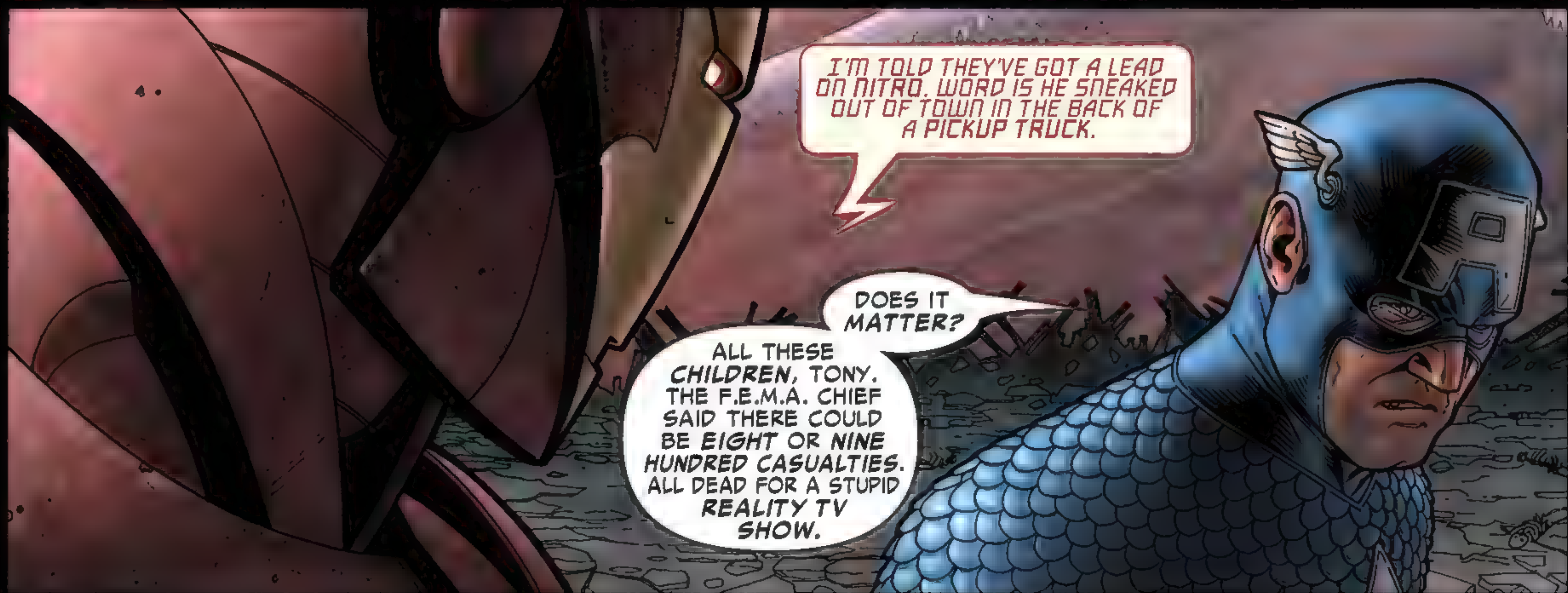
NAMORITA, RIGHT? AREN'T
YOU THE SUB-MARINER'S **COUSIN**
OR SOMETHING? WELL, I'M AFRAID
WE'RE NOT THE BARGAIN BASEMENT
LOSERS YOU GUYS ARE **USED**
TO, BABY...

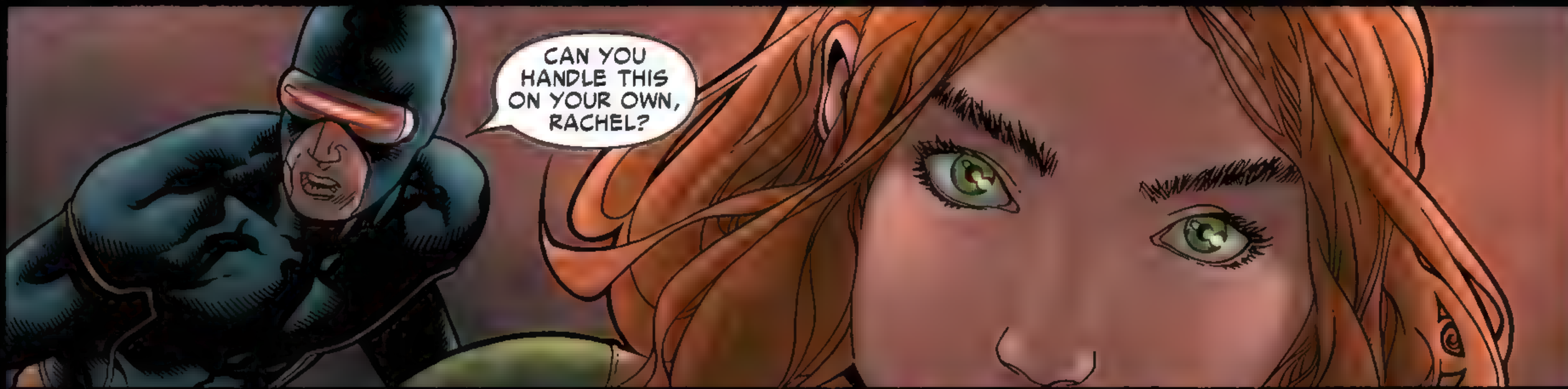




CIVIL WAR

PART
ONE OF
SEVEN





CAN YOU
HANDLE THIS
ON YOUR OWN,
RACHEL?



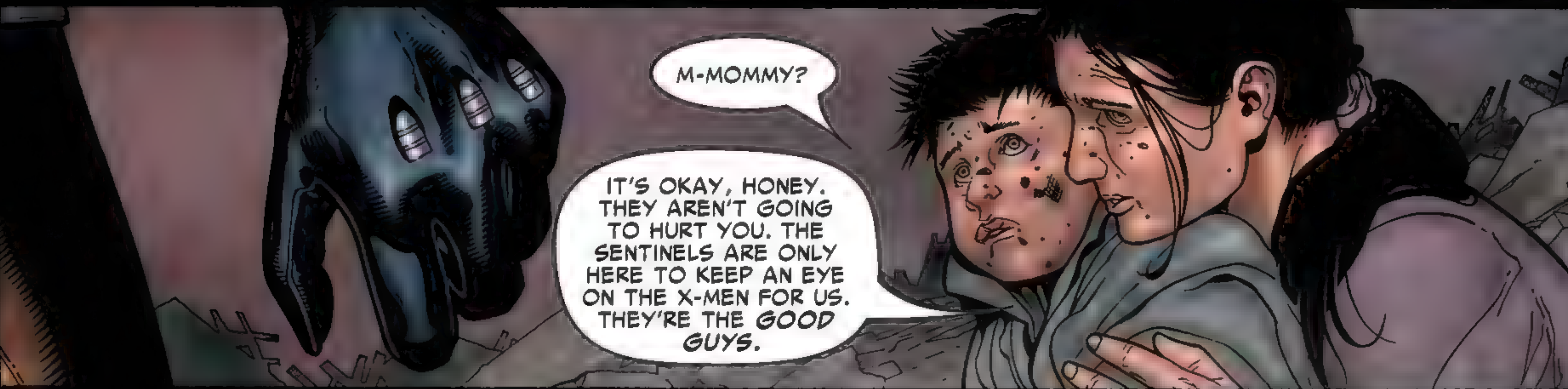
I CAN
HANDLE IT,
SCOTT.



SIX MORE
SURVIVORS OVER BY
THE SCHOOL'S NORTH
SIDE. BRING BLANKETS
AND A DEFIBRILLATOR.

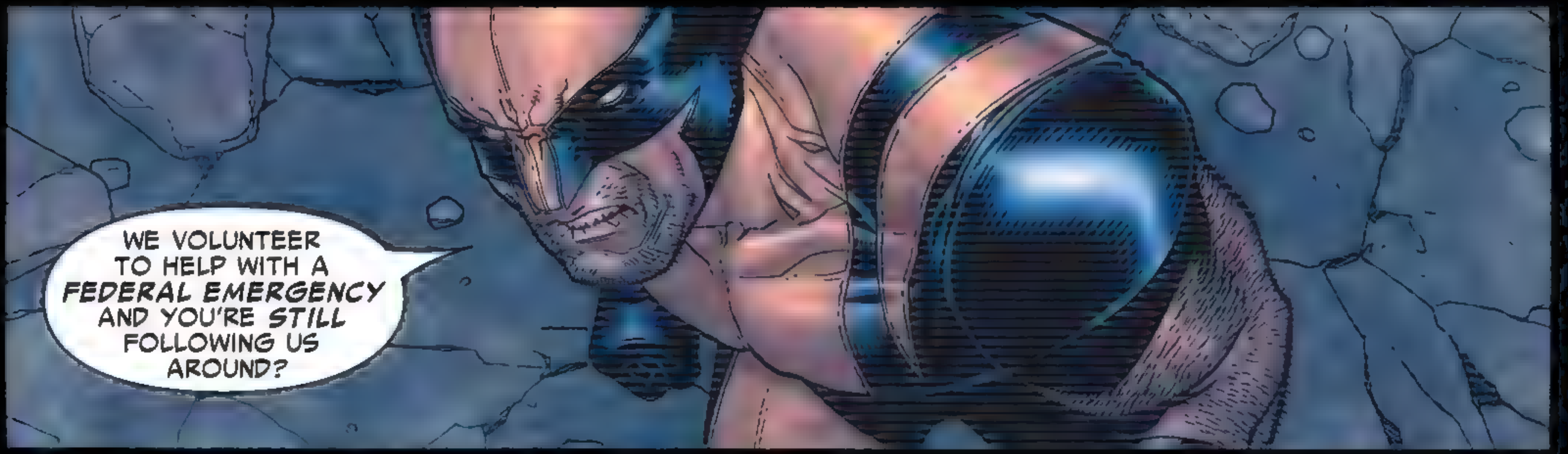


YOU
GOTTA BE
KIDDIN' ME.



M-MOMMY?

IT'S OKAY, HONEY.
THEY AREN'T GOING
TO HURT YOU. THE
SENTINELS ARE ONLY
HERE TO KEEP AN EYE
ON THE X-MEN FOR US.
THEY'RE THE GOOD
GUYS.



WE VOLUNTEER
TO HELP WITH A
FEDERAL EMERGENCY
AND YOU'RE STILL
FOLLOWING US
AROUND?

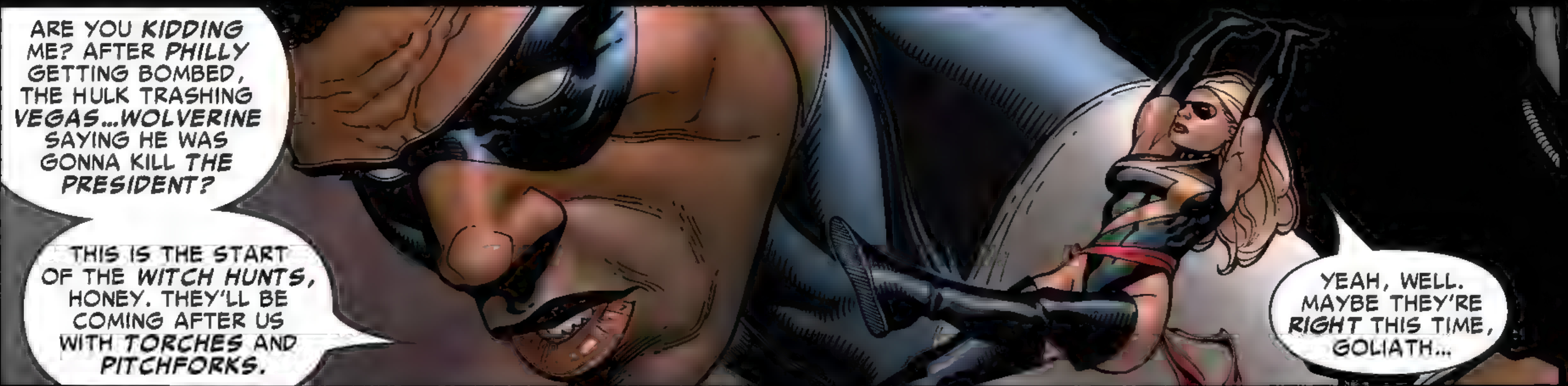


JUST DOIN'
OUR JOBS,
WOLVERINE.



IT WON'T JUST BE MUTANTS
THEY'RE WATCHING AFTER
THIS ONE, MS MARVEL. THIS
IS THE STRAW THAT BROKE
THE CAMEL'S BACK. YOU
MARK MY WORDS.

YOU
THINK?



ARE YOU KIDDING
ME? AFTER PHILLY
GETTING BOMBED,
THE HULK TRASHING
VEGAS...WOLVERINE
SAYING HE WAS
GONNA KILL THE
PRESIDENT?

THIS IS THE START
OF THE WITCH HUNTS,
HONEY. THEY'LL BE
COMING AFTER US
WITH TORCHES AND
PITCHFORKS.

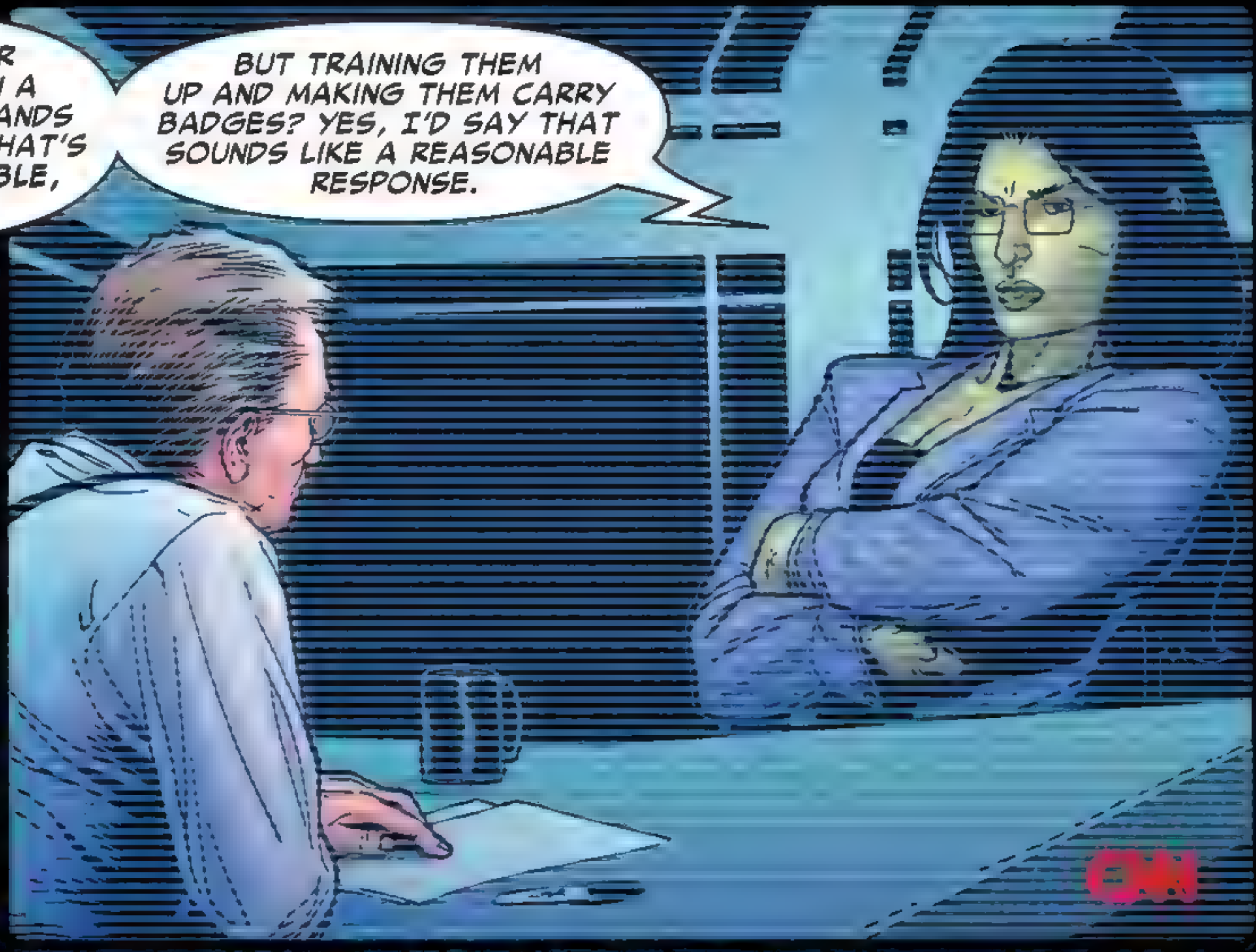
YEAH, WELL.
MAYBE THEY'RE
RIGHT THIS TIME,
GOLIATH...



WHO THE
HELL CAN
JUSTIFY
THIS?

A BAN ON SUPER
HEROES? WELL, IN A
WORLD WITH THOUSANDS
OF SUPER-VILLAINS THAT'S
OBVIOUSLY IMPOSSIBLE,
LARRY.

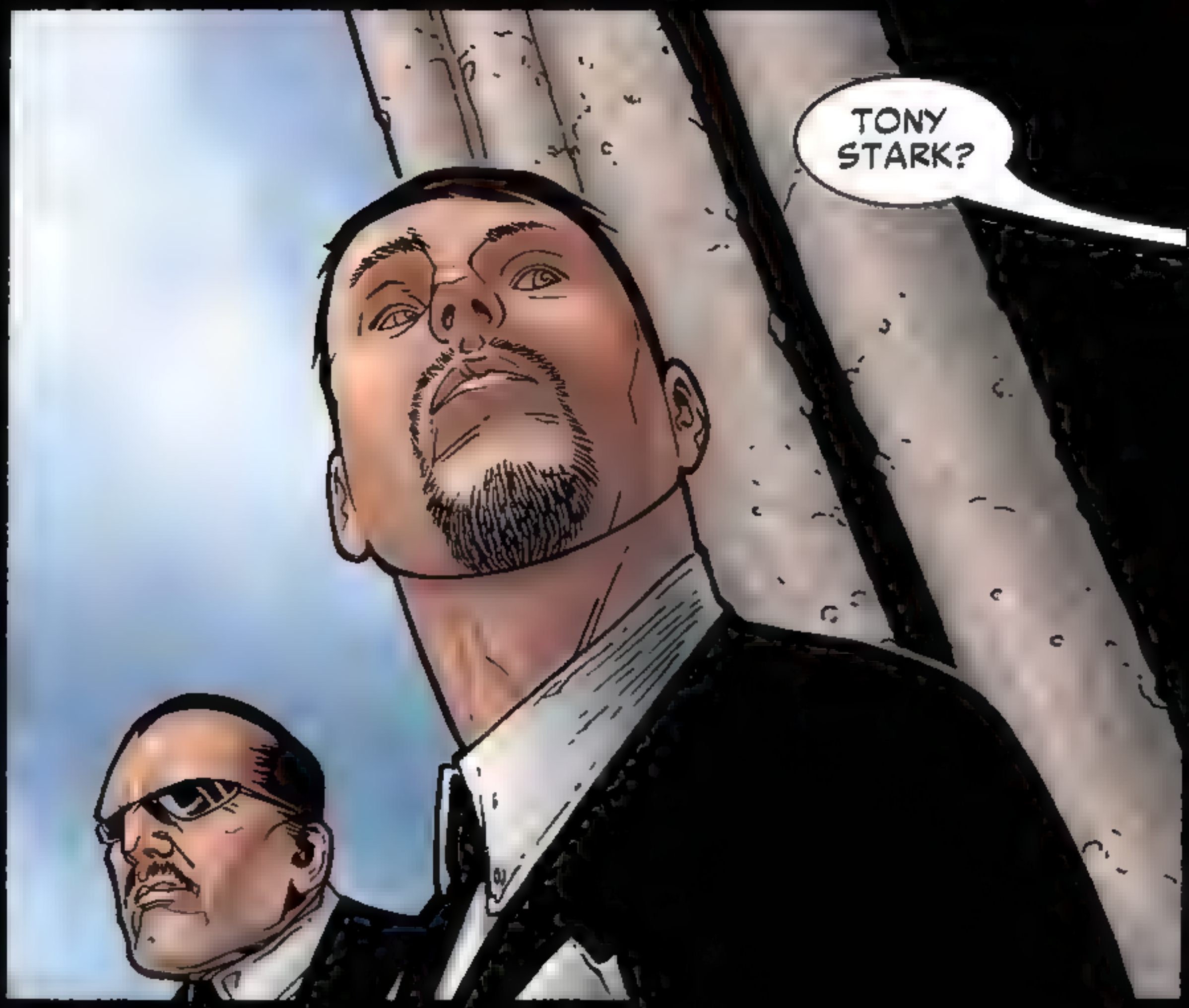
BUT TRAINING THEM
UP AND MAKING THEM CARRY
BADGES? YES, I'D SAY THAT
SOUNDS LIKE A REASONABLE
RESPONSE.



...AND SO WE ASK
YOU, LORD, FOR YOUR
MERCY. NOT ONLY FOR
THE SOULS OF THE CHILDREN
WHO PERISHED, BUT FOR THE
SUPER-PEOPLE WHOSE
CARELESSNESS CAUSED
THIS TRAGEDY.

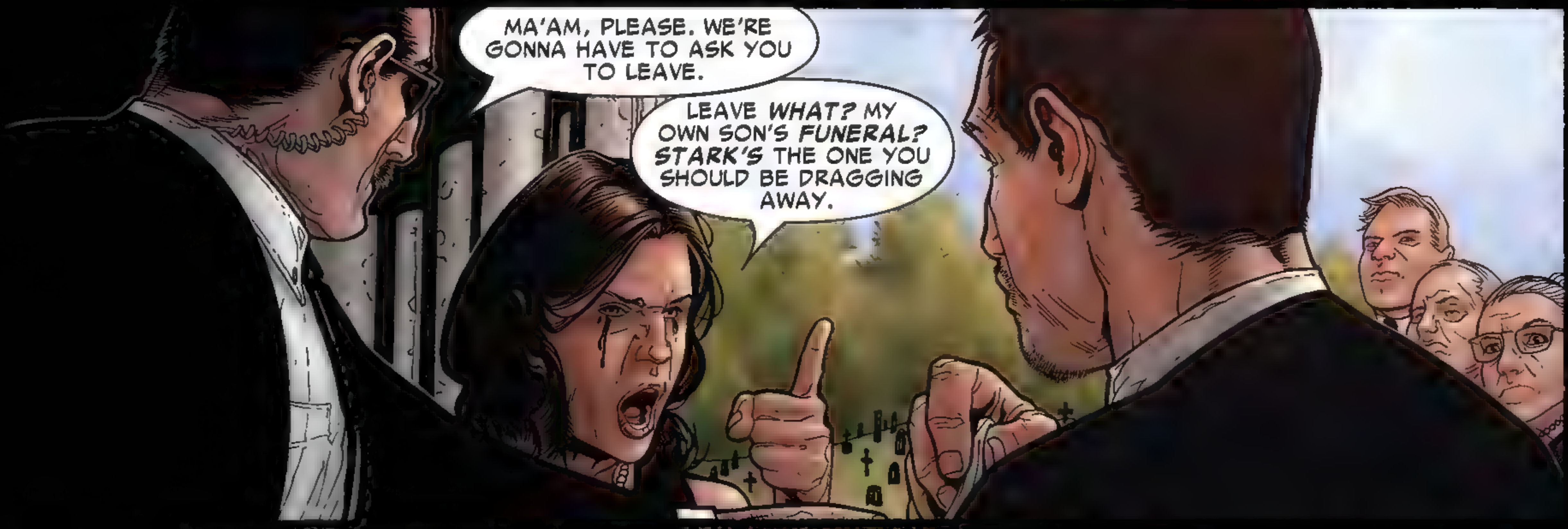


TONY
STARK?





YOU
FILTHY
PIECE OF
CRAP!



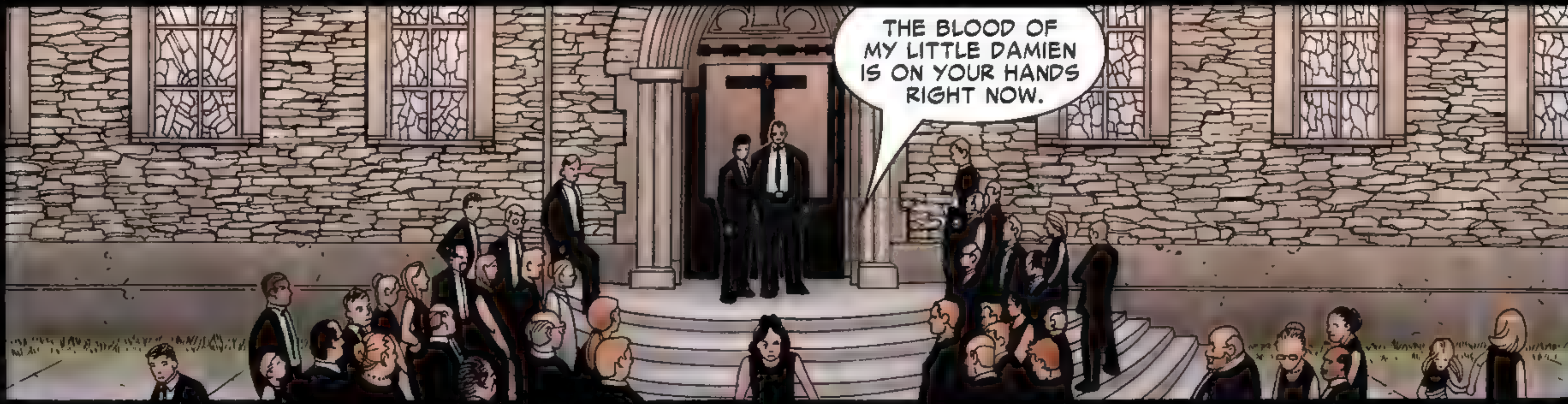
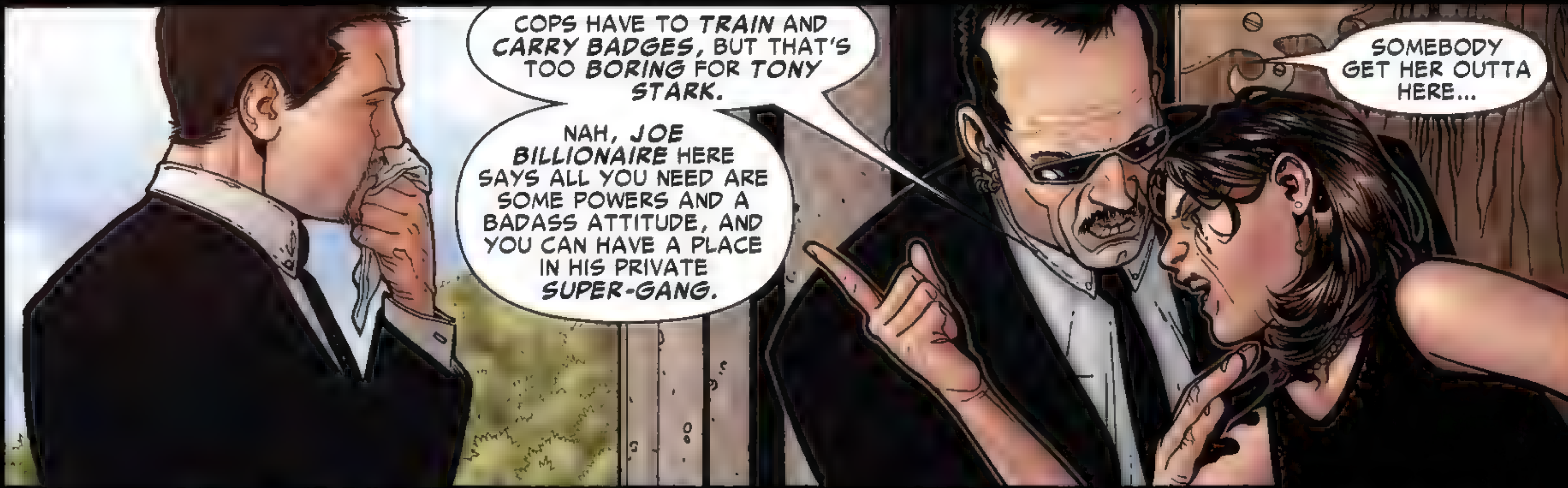
MA'AM, PLEASE. WE'RE
GONNA HAVE TO ASK YOU
TO LEAVE.

LEAVE WHAT? MY
OWN SON'S FUNERAL?
STARK'S THE ONE YOU
SHOULD BE DRAGGING
AWAY.

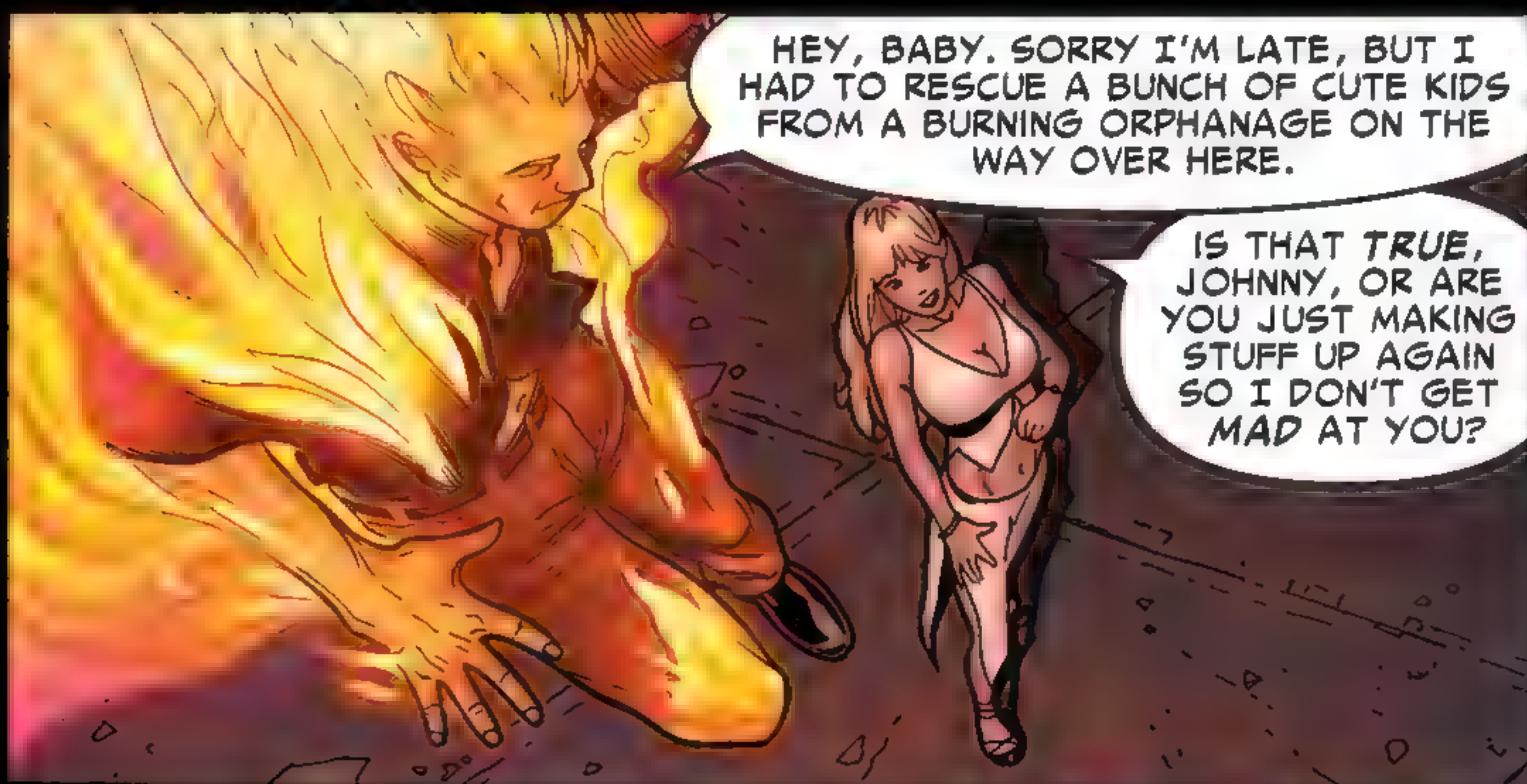


MA'AM, I APPRECIATE
THAT YOU'RE UPSET, BUT
THE NEW WARRIORS'
RECKLESSNESS HAD
NOTHING TO DO
WITH ME.

OH, YEAH? AND
WHO FINANCES THE
AVENGERS? WHO'S
BEEN TELLING KIDS FOR
YEARS THAT THEY CAN
LIVE OUTSIDE THE LAW
AS LONG AS THEY'RE
WEARING TIGHTS?



THINGS TURN UGLY:



HEY, BABY. SORRY I'M LATE, BUT I HAD TO RESCUE A BUNCH OF CUTE KIDS FROM A BURNING ORPHANAGE ON THE WAY OVER HERE.

IS THAT TRUE, JOHNNY, OR ARE YOU JUST MAKING STUFF UP AGAIN SO I DON'T GET MAD AT YOU?



WELL, SWAP "ORPHANS" FOR "BABES" AND "BURNING BUILDING" FOR "SIGNING AUTOGRAPHS" AND IT'S COMPLETELY TRUE, SWEETIE.



CHICO! HOW'S IT HANGING, BIG MAN?

PARIS AND LINDSAY ARE WAITING UPSTAIRS, JOHNNY. CHICKS COULDN'T BELIEVE IT WHEN I SAID YOU WERE DROPPING BY.



HEY! HOW COME THAT LOSER'S GETTING IN WHEN WE'VE BEEN WAITING HOURS?

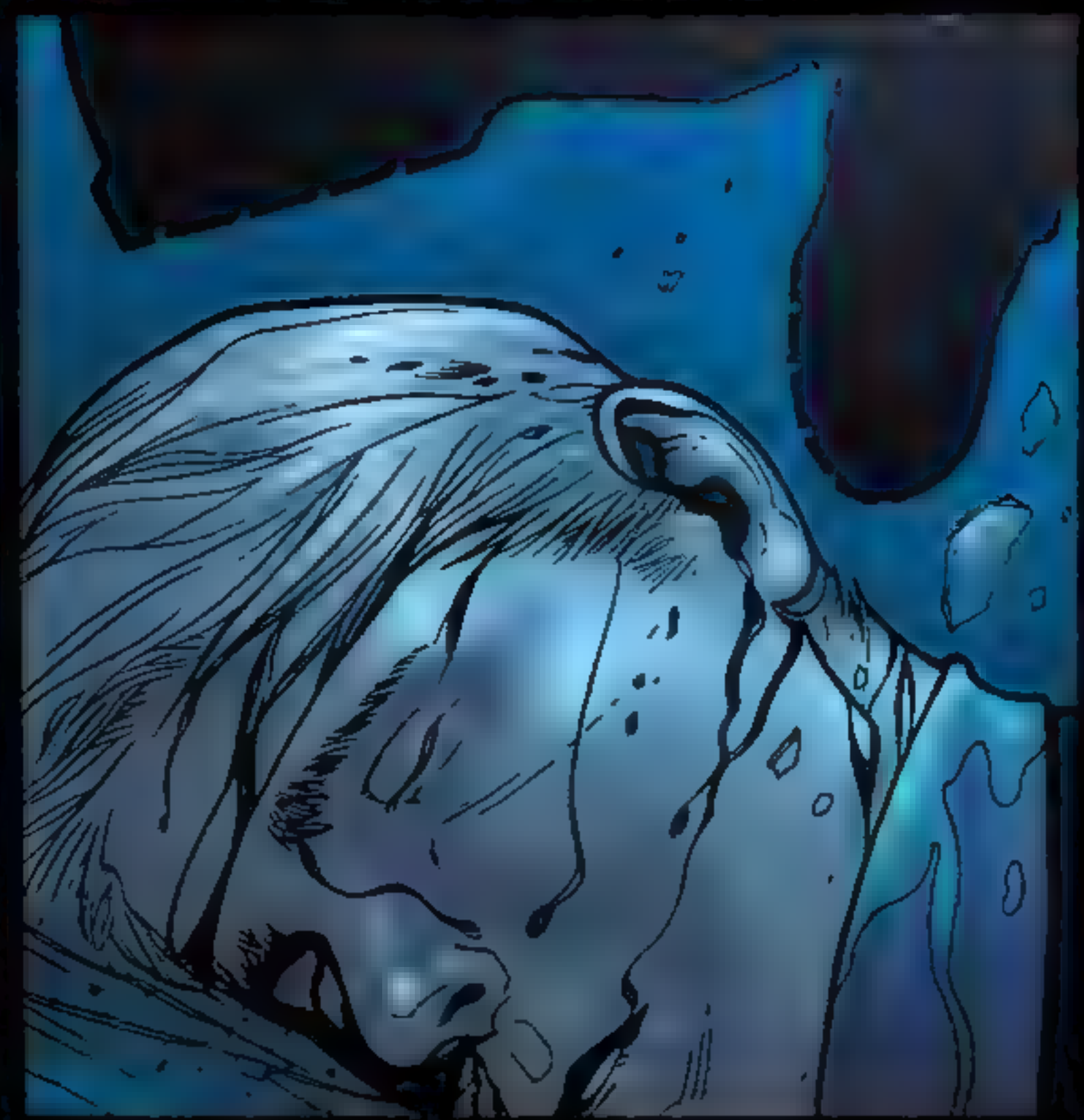


TELL YOU WHAT, GORGEOUS: NEXT TIME YOU SAVE THE WORLD FROM GALACTUS, YOU CAN BORROW MY FREE PASS, 'KAY?

WHAT ABOUT THE NEXT TIME YOU BLOW UP A SCHOOL, JACKASS?



YEAH, WHAT ABOUT THE NEXT TIME YOU KILL SOME KIDS?



THE BAXTER BUILDING:



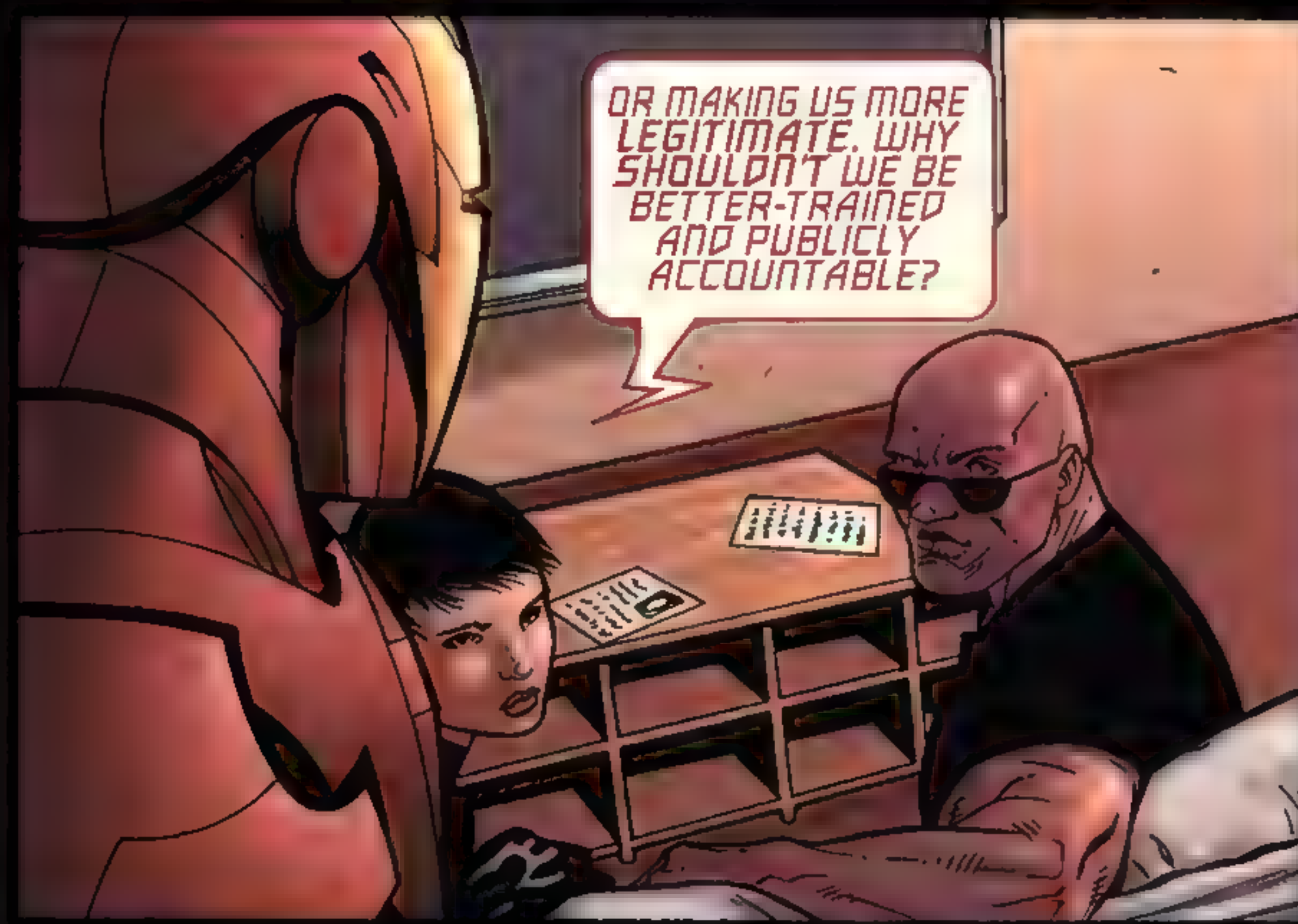
SO WHAT ARE THEY SAYING, DOCTOR RICHARDS?

THAT I'LL BE FORCED TO BECOME A **FEDERAL EMPLOYEE** OR FACE A WARRANT FOR MY **ARREST**?

ACTUALLY, YOU WERE ONE OF THE FEW **POST-HUMANS** THEY'RE HOPING TO SEEK A COMPROMISE WITH, STEPHEN.

PENSION PLANS AND ANNUAL VACATION TIME? IT'S RIDICULOUS. WHAT ARE THEY TRYING TO DO? TURN US INTO CIVIL SERVANTS?

LOOKS TO ME LIKE THEY'RE **CLOSING US DOWN, WASP.**



OR MAKING US MORE LEGITIMATE. WHY SHOULDN'T WE BE BETTER-TRAINED AND PUBLICLY ACCOUNTABLE?

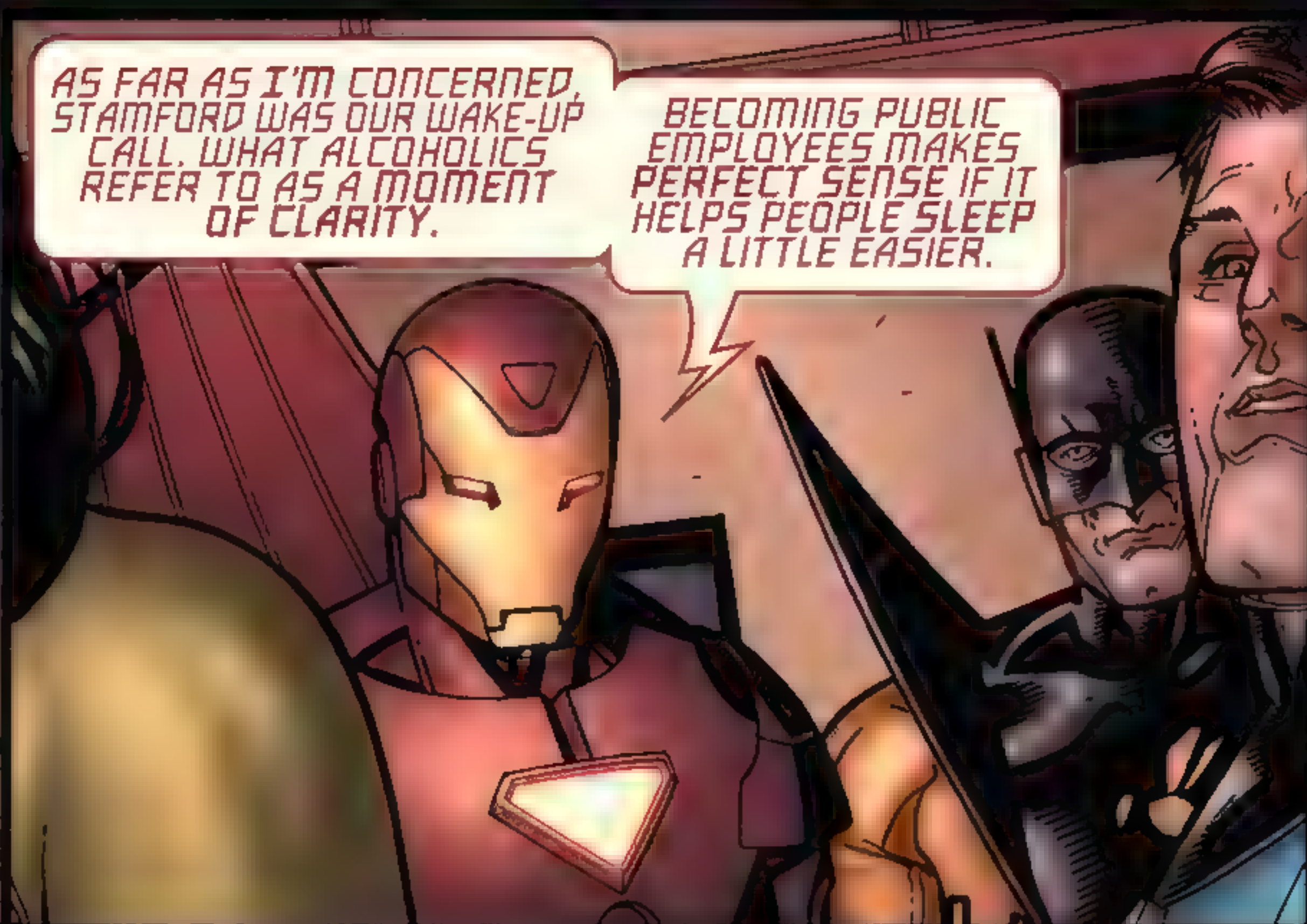


SOMEBODY SAID WE SHOULD GO ON STRIKE IF THEY MESS WITH US LIKE THIS. DOES ANYBODY ELSE THINK THAT'S A GOOD IDEA?

NO, AH...IT'S PATRIOT, RIGHT? NO, I DON'T THINK ANYONE HERE COULD SERIOUSLY ADVOCATE A SUPER HERO STRIKE, SON.



SO WHAT'S THE GENERAL CONSENSUS?



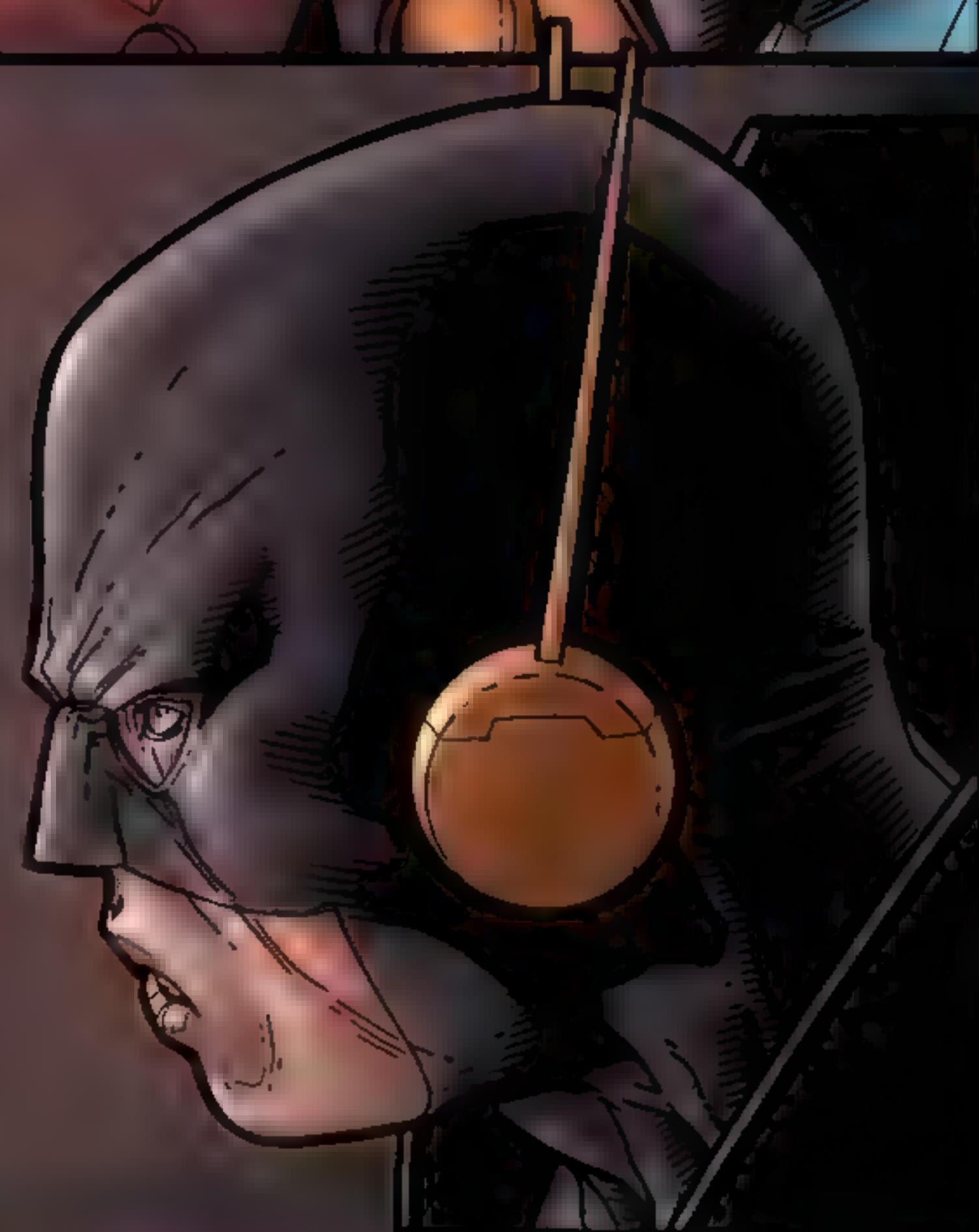
AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, STAMFORD WAS OUR WAKE-UP CALL. WHAT ALCOHOLICS REFER TO AS A MOMENT OF CLARITY.

BECOMING PUBLIC EMPLOYEES MAKES PERFECT SENSE IF IT HELPS PEOPLE SLEEP A LITTLE EASIER.



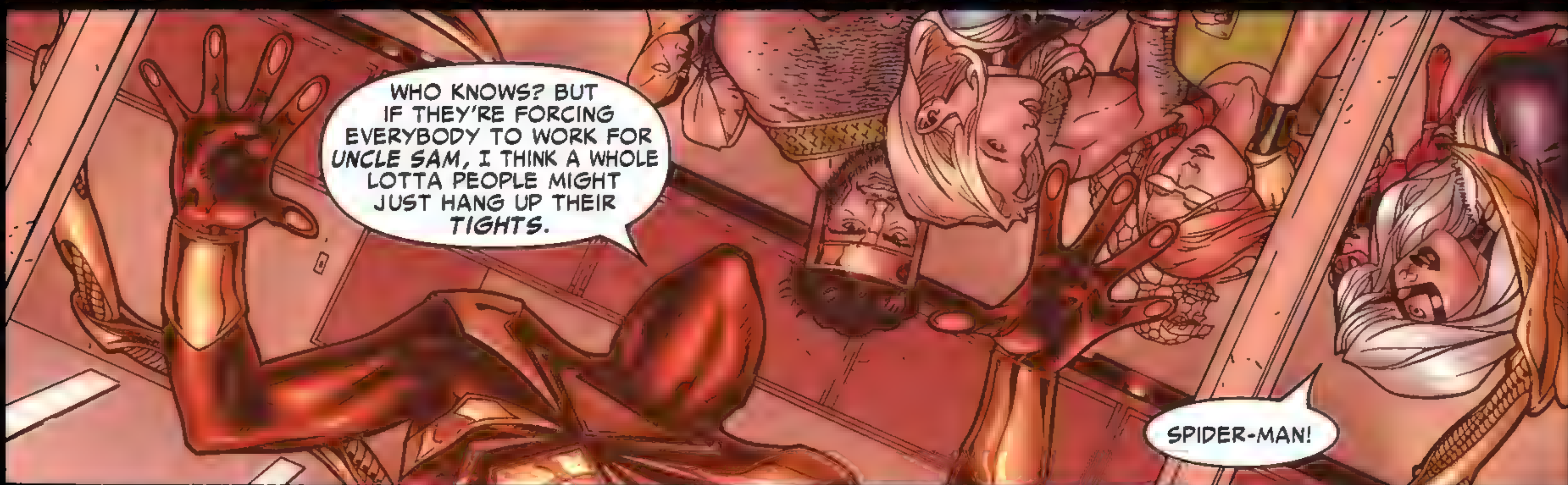
I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M HEARING THIS. THE MASKS ARE A TRADITION. WE CAN'T JUST LET THEM TURN US INTO SUPER-COPS.

ARE YOU KIDDING? WE'RE LUCKY PEOPLE HAVE TOLERATED THIS FOR AS LONG AS THEY HAVE, SAM. WHY SHOULD WE BE ALLOWED TO HIDE BEHIND THESE THINGS?



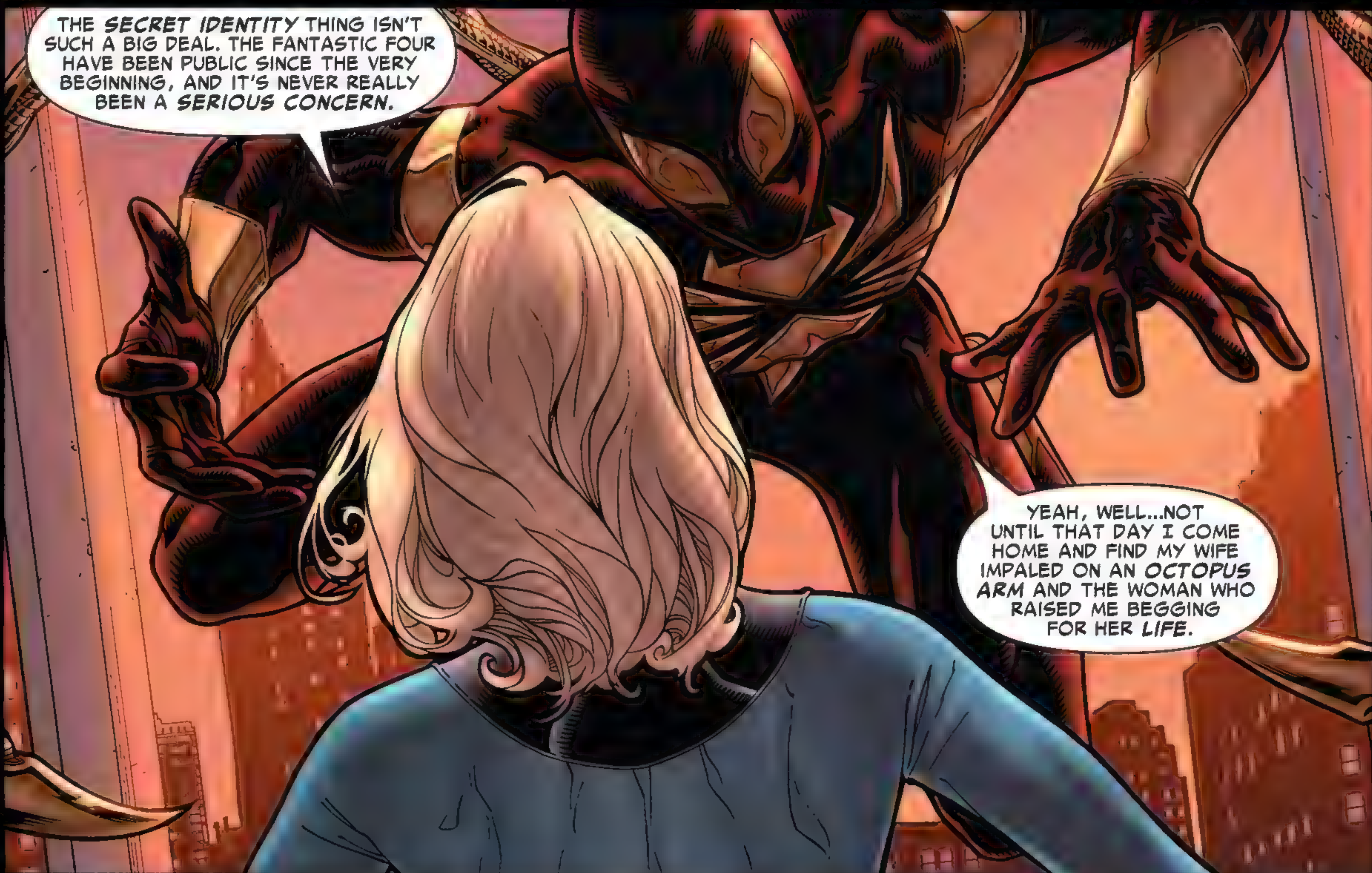
BECAUSE THE WORLD AIN'T SO NICE OUTSIDE YOUR IVORY TOWER, BUB.

TELL ME ABOUT IT, STUMPY. YOU THINK JOHNNY WOULD HAVE ENDED UP IN THE HOSPITAL LAST NIGHT IF MORONS LIKE YOU WASN'T OUT THERE GIVIN' US A BAD NAME?



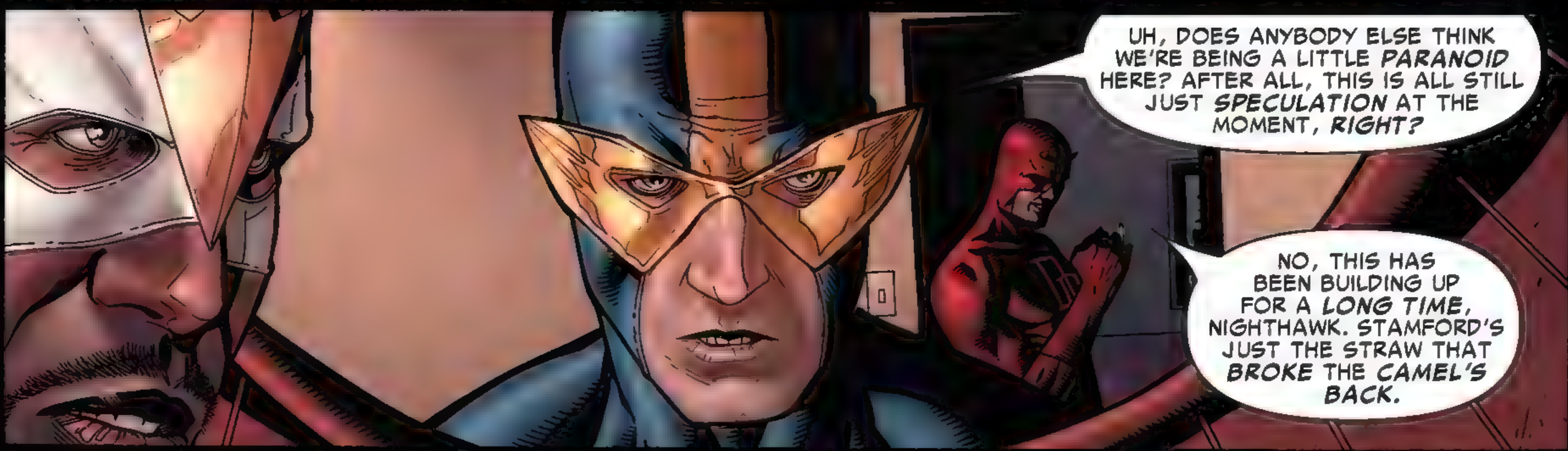
WHO KNOWS? BUT IF THEY'RE FORCING EVERYBODY TO WORK FOR **UNCLE SAM**, I THINK A WHOLE LOTTA PEOPLE MIGHT JUST HANG UP THEIR **TIGHTS**.

SPIDER-MAN!



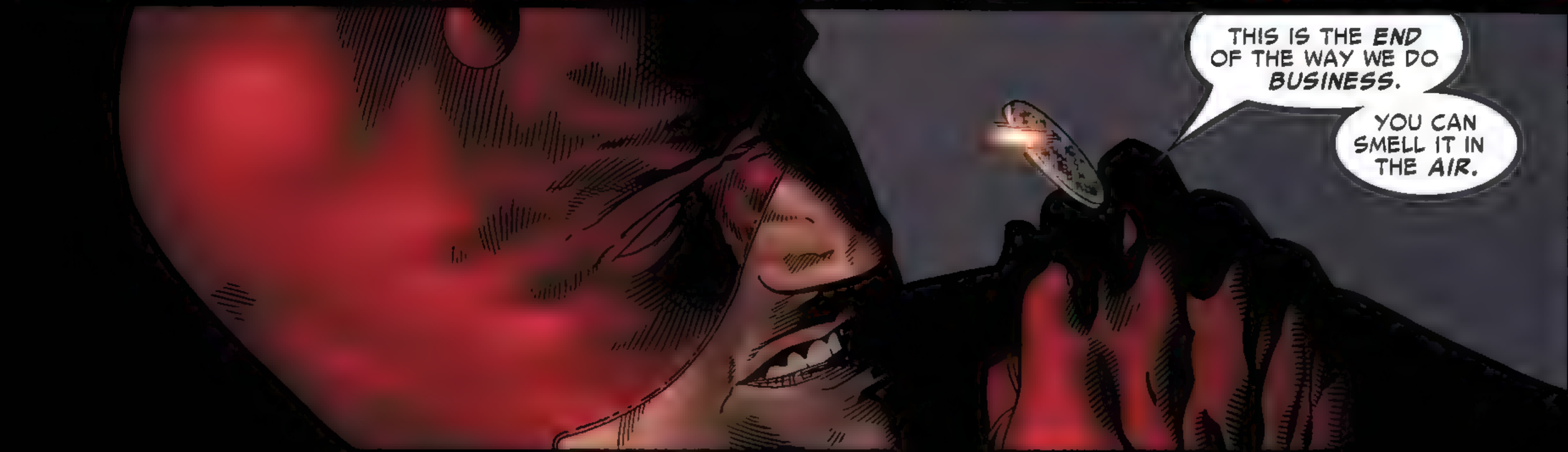
THE **SECRET IDENTITY** THING ISN'T SUCH A BIG DEAL. THE **FANTASTIC FOUR** HAVE BEEN PUBLIC SINCE THE VERY BEGINNING, AND IT'S NEVER REALLY BEEN A **SERIOUS CONCERN**.

YEAH, WELL...NOT UNTIL THAT DAY I CAME HOME AND FOUND MY WIFE IMPALED ON AN **OCTOPUS ARM** AND THE WOMAN WHO RAISED ME BEGGING FOR HER **LIFE**.



UH, DOES ANYBODY ELSE THINK WE'RE BEING A LITTLE **PARANOID** HERE? AFTER ALL, THIS IS ALL STILL JUST **SPECULATION** AT THE MOMENT, **RIGHT?**

NO, THIS HAS BEEN BUILDING UP FOR A LONG TIME, **NIGHTHAWK**. **STAMFORD'S** JUST THE STRAW THAT BROKE THE **CAMEL'S BACK**.



THIS IS THE **END** OF THE WAY WE DO **BUSINESS**.

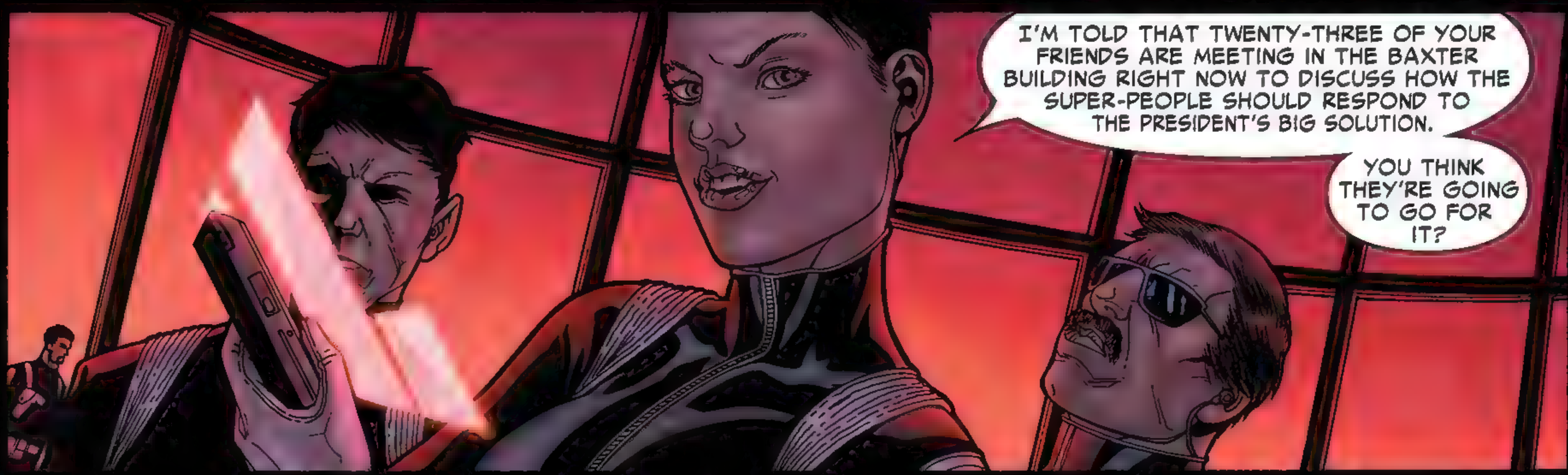
YOU CAN **SMELL IT** IN THE **AIR**.

S.H.I.E.L.D. HELICARRIER,
SIX MILES ABOVE NEW YORK:



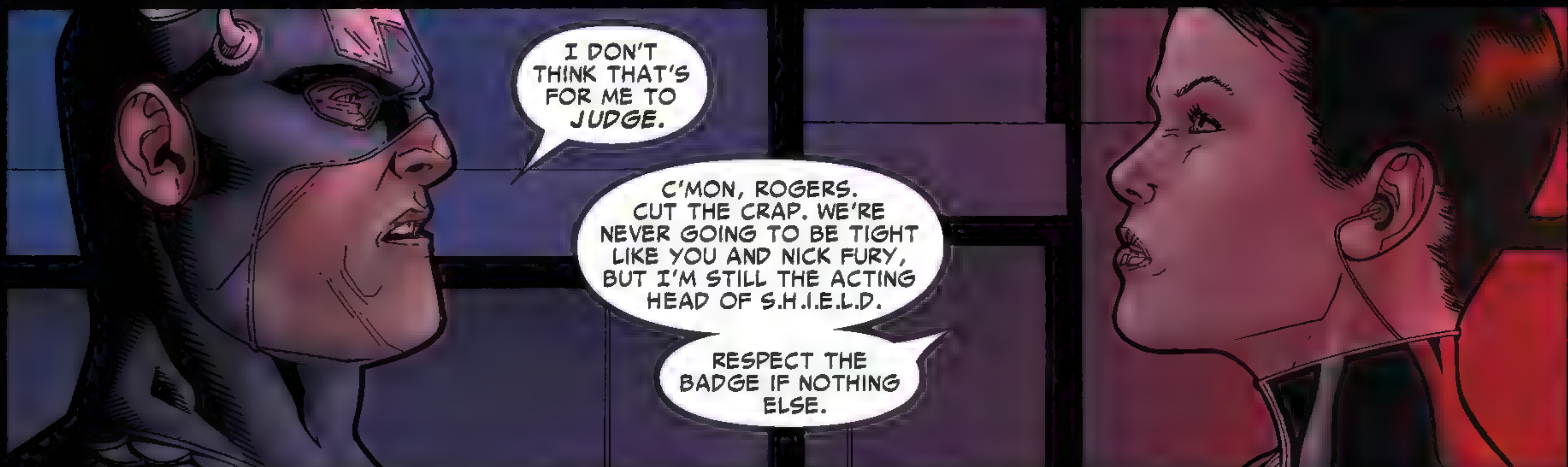
CAPTAIN.

COMMANDER
HILL.



I'M TOLD THAT TWENTY-THREE OF YOUR
FRIENDS ARE MEETING IN THE BAXTER
BUILDING RIGHT NOW TO DISCUSS HOW THE
SUPER-PEOPLE SHOULD RESPOND TO
THE PRESIDENT'S BIG SOLUTION.

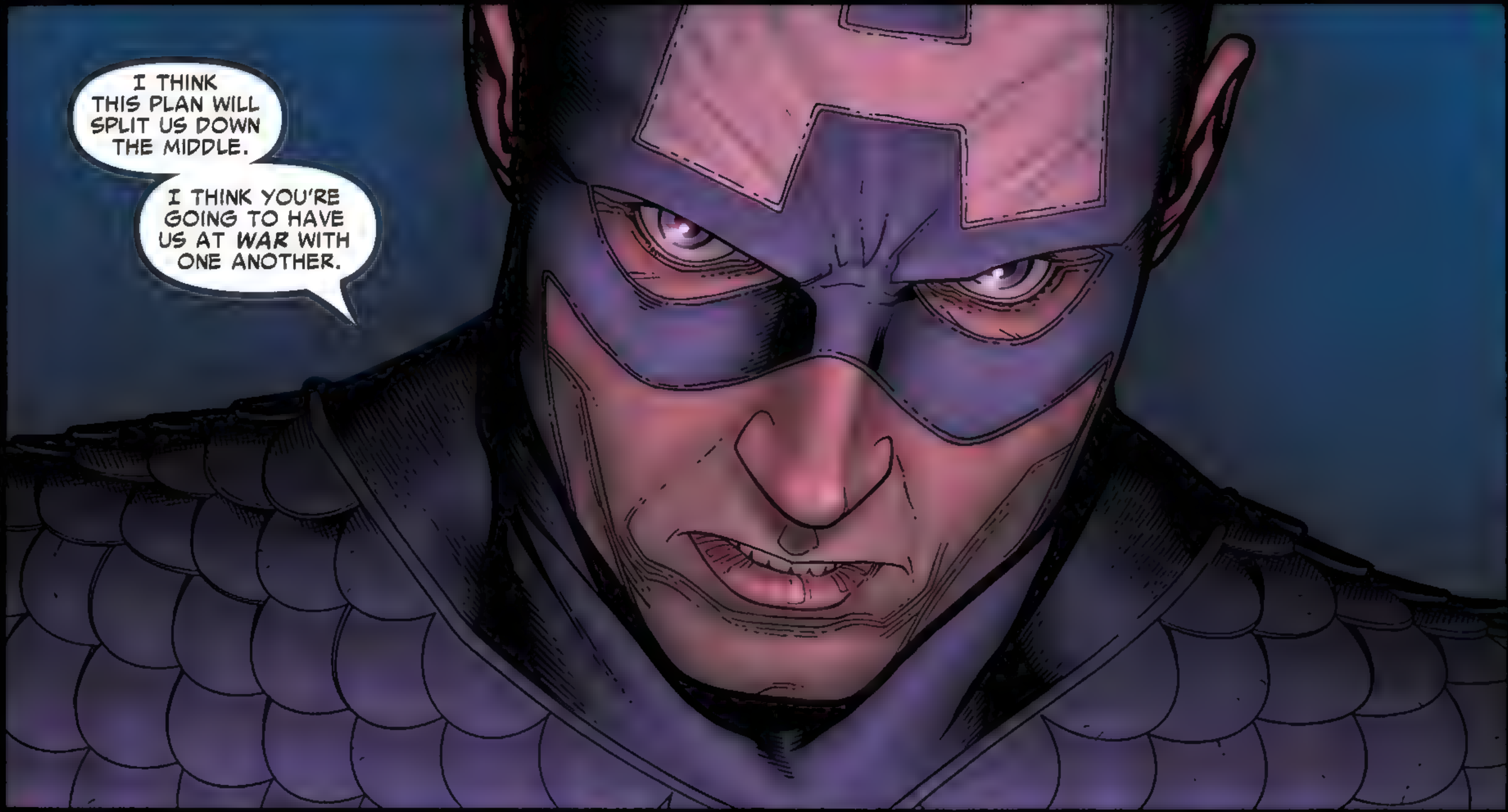
YOU THINK
THEY'RE GOING
TO GO FOR
IT?



I DON'T
THINK THAT'S
FOR ME TO
JUDGE.

C'MON, ROGERS.
CUT THE CRAP. WE'RE
NEVER GOING TO BE TIGHT
LIKE YOU AND NICK FURY,
BUT I'M STILL THE ACTING
HEAD OF S.H.I.E.L.D.

RESPECT THE
BADGE IF NOTHING
ELSE.



I THINK
THIS PLAN WILL
SPLIT US DOWN
THE MIDDLE.

I THINK YOU'RE
GOING TO HAVE
US AT WAR WITH
ONE ANOTHER.



WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH THESE GUYS?
HOW CAN ANYONE ARGUE WITH SUPER HEROES
BEING PROPERLY TRAINED AND PAID
FOR A LIVEING?



HOW MANY
REBELS DO YOU
ESTIMATE HERE,
CAPTAIN?

A LOT.

ANY
MAJORS?



A FEW, BUT
MOSTLY THE HEROES
WHO WORK CLOSE TO
THE STREETS LIKE
DAREDEVIL AND
LUKE CAGE.



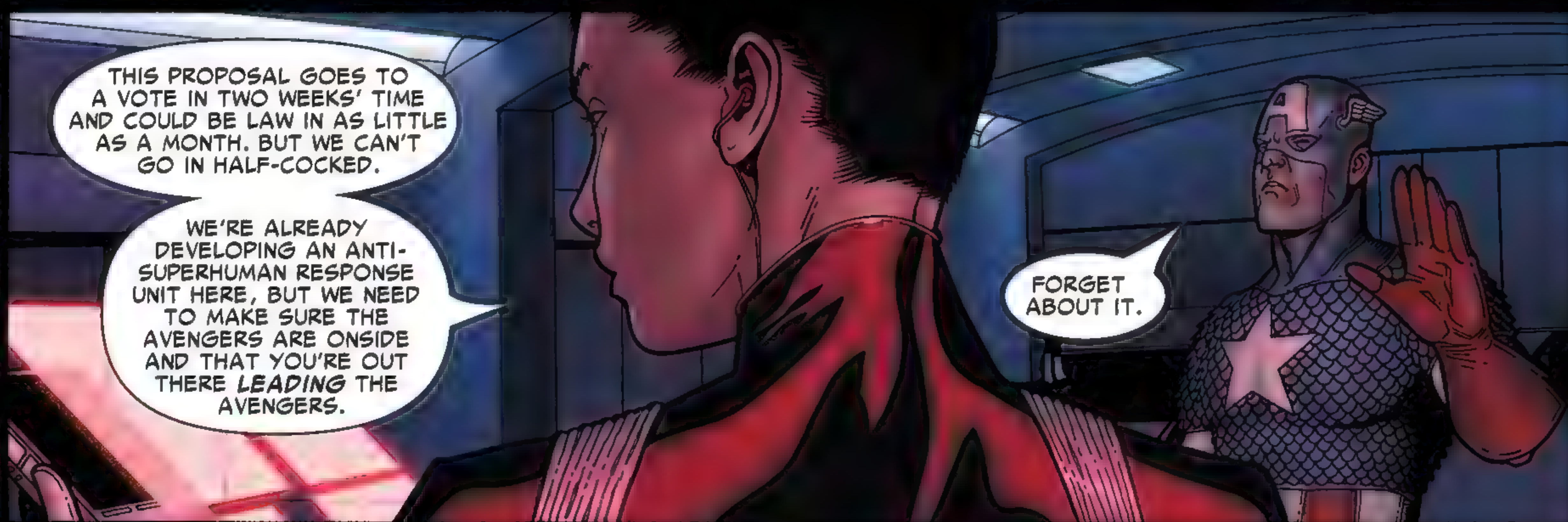
SO
NOBODY
YOU CAN'T
HANDLE?



EXCUSE
ME?



YOU
HEARD.



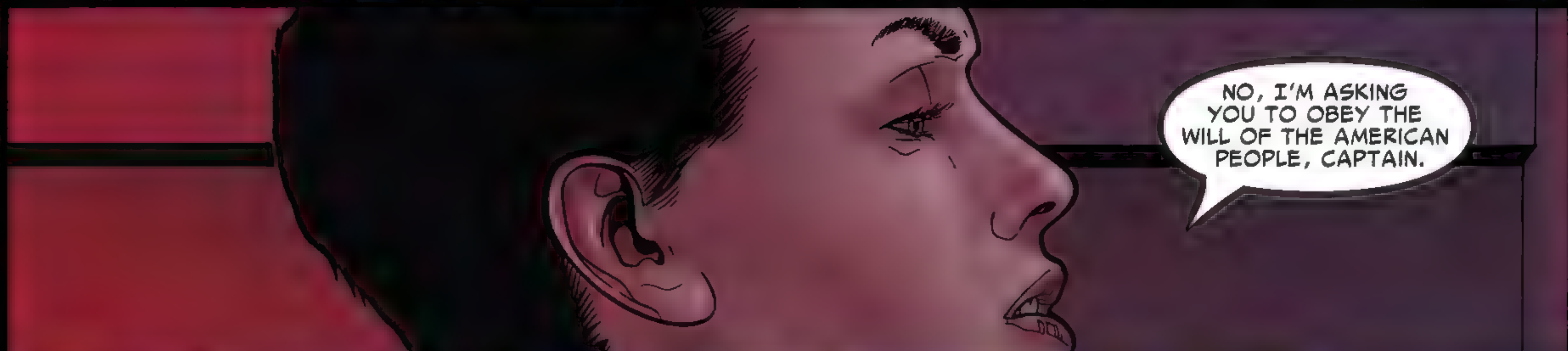
THIS PROPOSAL GOES TO A VOTE IN TWO WEEKS' TIME AND COULD BE LAW IN AS LITTLE AS A MONTH. BUT WE CAN'T GO IN HALF-COCKED.

WE'RE ALREADY DEVELOPING AN ANTI-SUPERHUMAN RESPONSE UNIT HERE, BUT WE NEED TO MAKE SURE THE AVENGERS ARE ONSIDE AND THAT YOU'RE OUT THERE LEADING THE AVENGERS.

FORGET ABOUT IT.



YOU'RE ASKING ME TO ARREST PEOPLE WHO RISK THEIR LIVES FOR THIS COUNTRY EVERY DAY OF THE WEEK.



NO, I'M ASKING YOU TO OBEY THE WILL OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, CAPTAIN.



DON'T PLAY POLITICS WITH ME, HILL. SUPER HEROES NEED TO STAY ABOVE THAT STUFF OR WASHINGTON STARTS TELLING US WHO THE SUPER-VILLAINS ARE.



I THOUGHT SUPER-VILLAINS WERE GUYS IN MASKS WHO REFUSED TO OBEY THE LAW.



CHIK-CHAK

CHIK-CHAK

CHIK-CHAK

CHIK-CHAK

CHIK-CHAK

CHIK-CHAK

CHIK-CHAK



IS THIS THE
HIT SQUAD YOU'VE
BEEN TRAINING TO
TAKE DOWN
HEROES?

NOBODY WANTS
A WAR, CAPTAIN.
THE PEOPLE ARE
JUST SICK AND
TIRED OF LIVING IN
THE WILD WEST.



MASKED HEROES HAVE BEEN A
PART OF THIS COUNTRY FOR AS
LONG AS ANYONE CAN
REMEMBER.

SO'S SMALLPOX. NOW GROW UP AND
STOP BEING AN IDIOT, HUH? NOBODY'S
SAYING YOU CAN'T DO YOUR JOB.

IT'S JUST
TIME YOU WENT
LEGITIMATE LIKE
THE REST OF US,
SOLDIER.



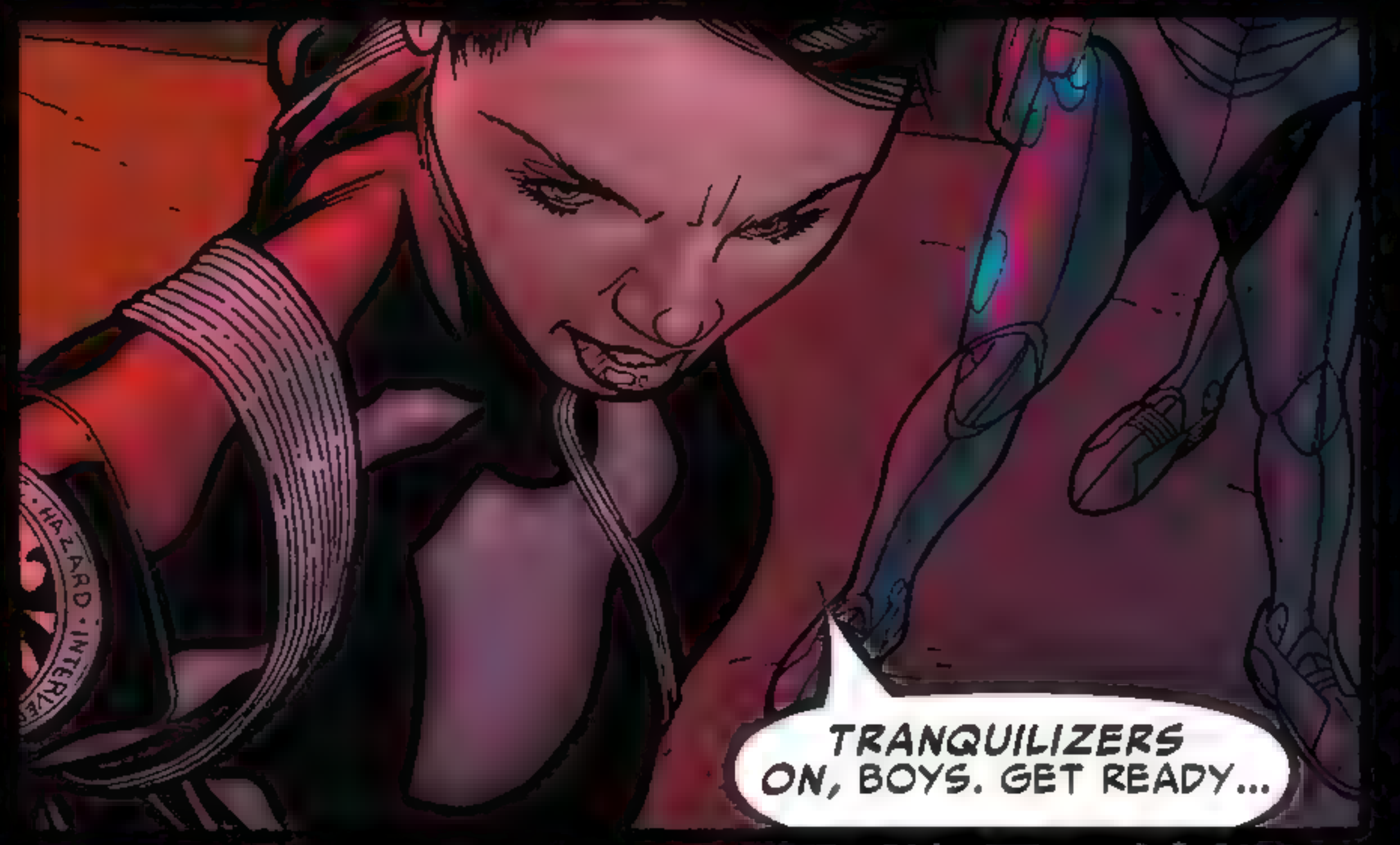
WEAPONS
DOWN, BOYS.



STAND YOUR GROUND,
GENTLEMEN. CAPTAIN
AMERICA IS NOT IN
COMMAND HERE.



WEAPONS DOWN
OR I WILL NOT BE
RESPONSIBLE FOR
WHAT COMES
NEXT...

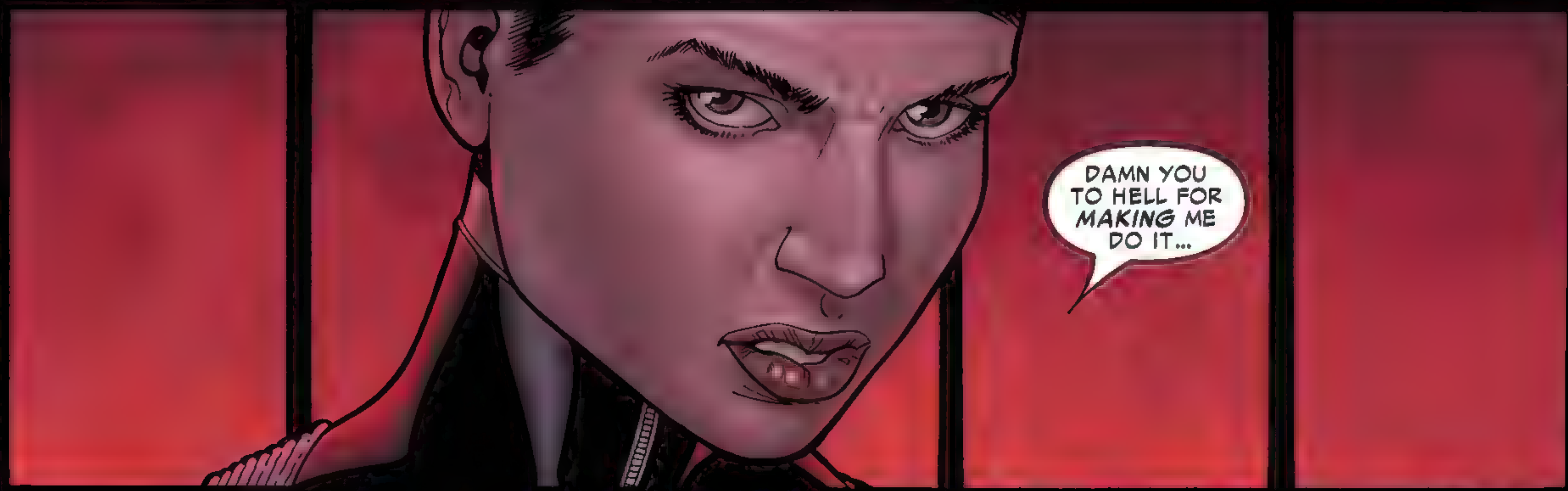


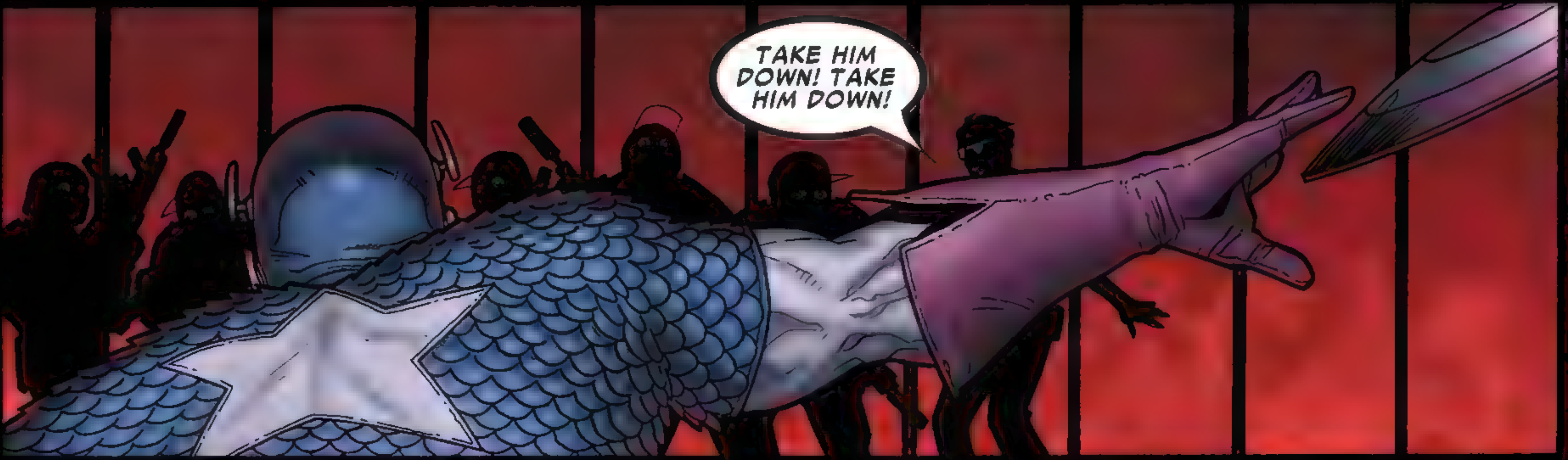
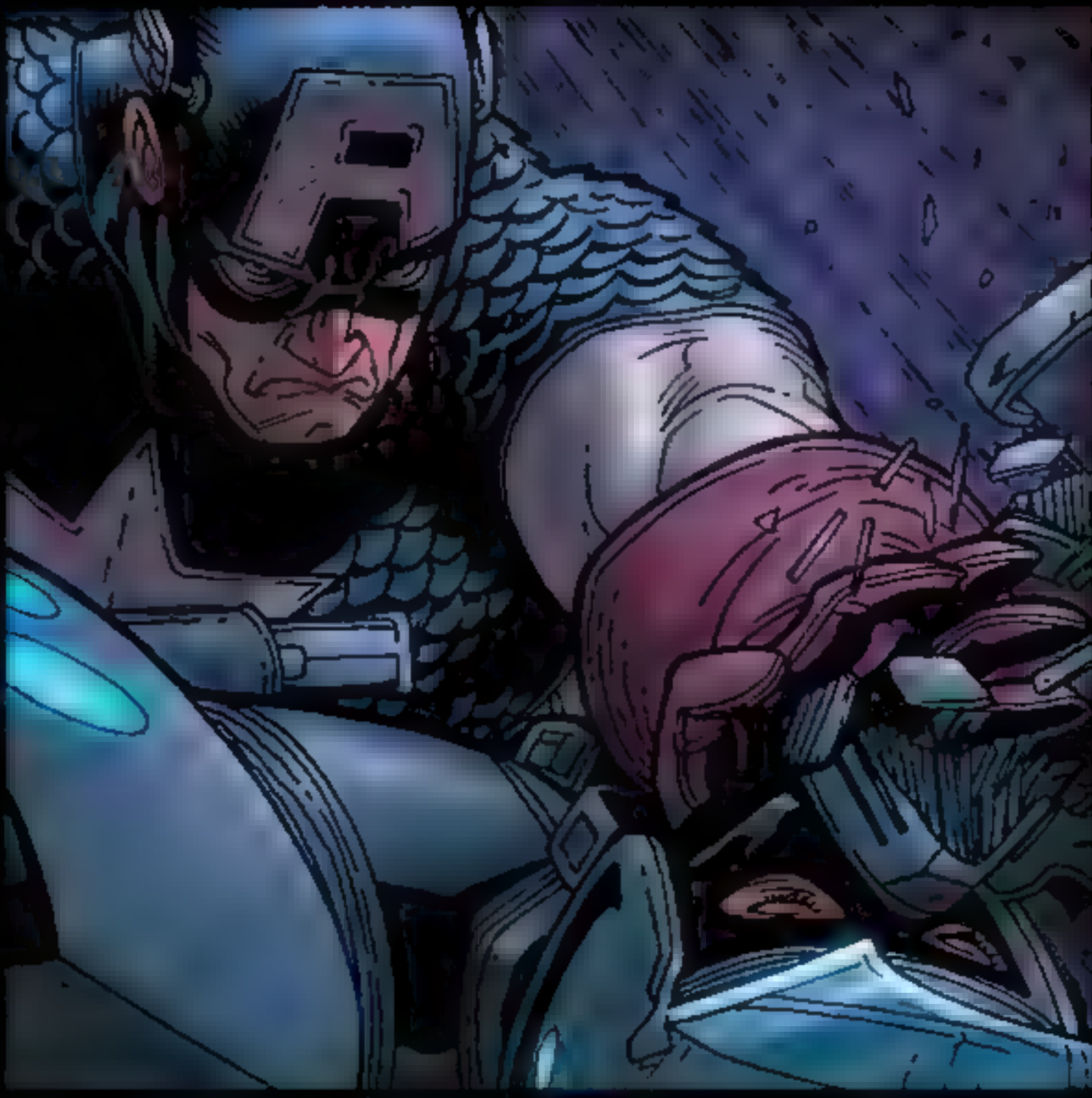
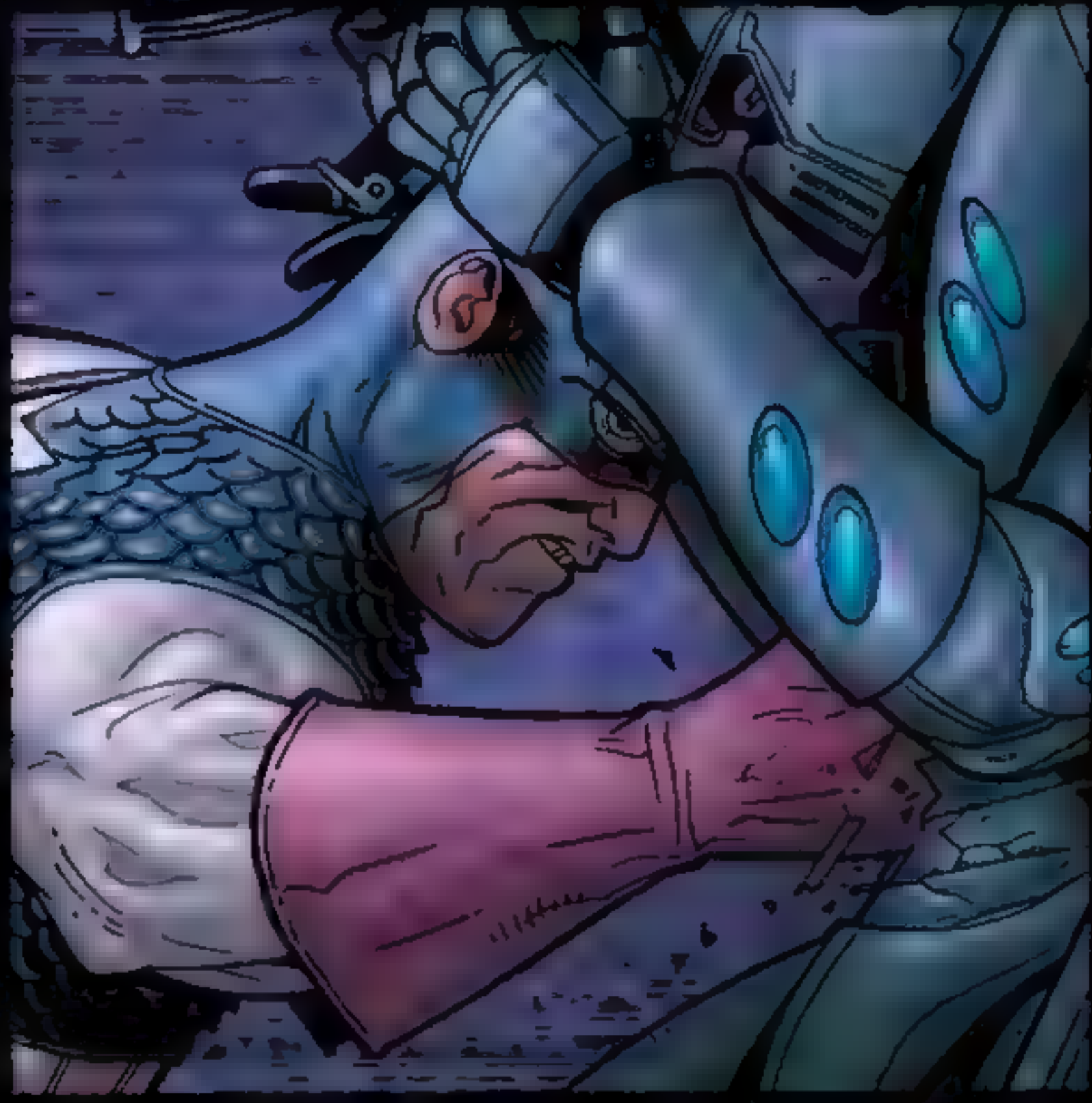
TRANQUILIZERS
ON, BOYS. GET READY...

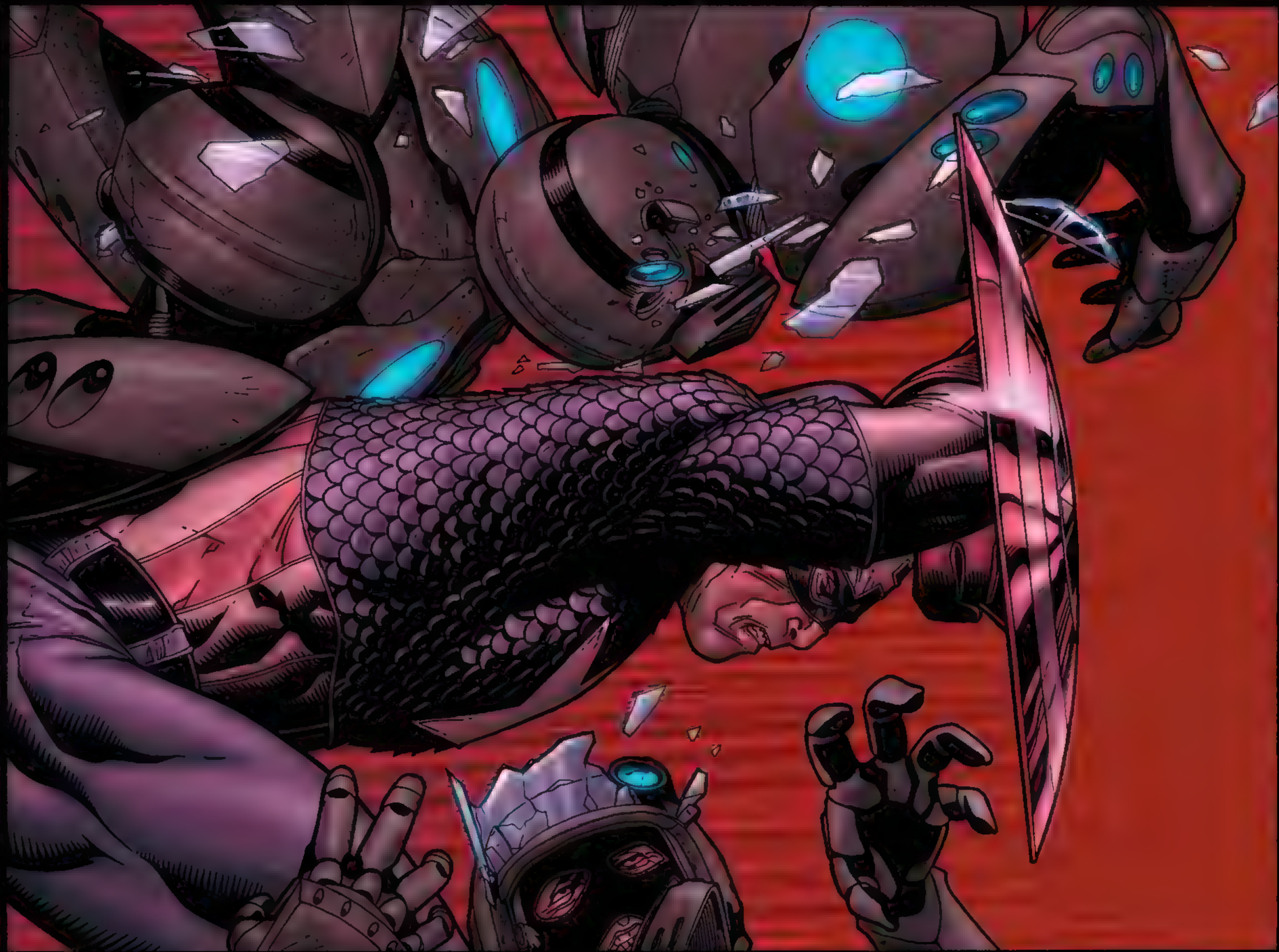


THIS
IS INSANE!
COMPLETELY
INSANE.

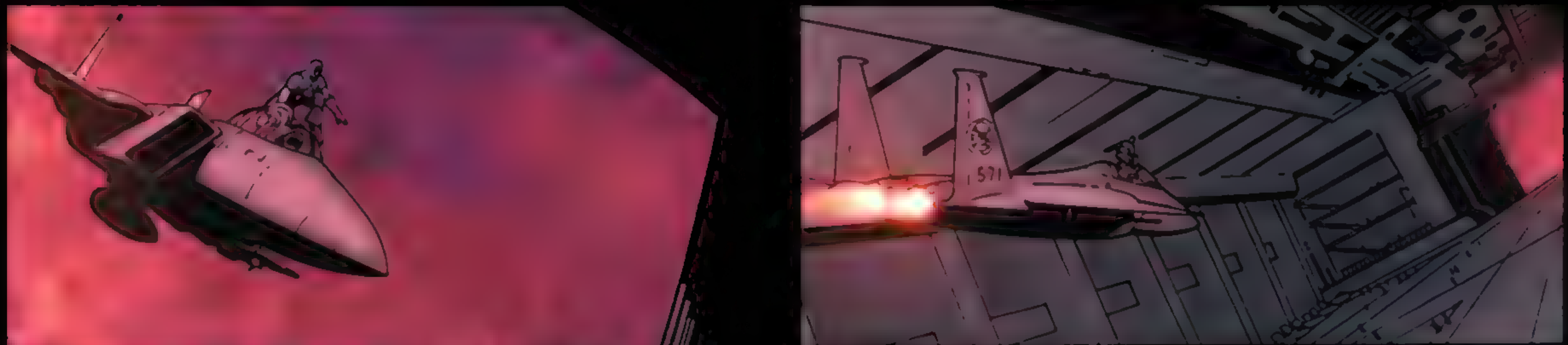
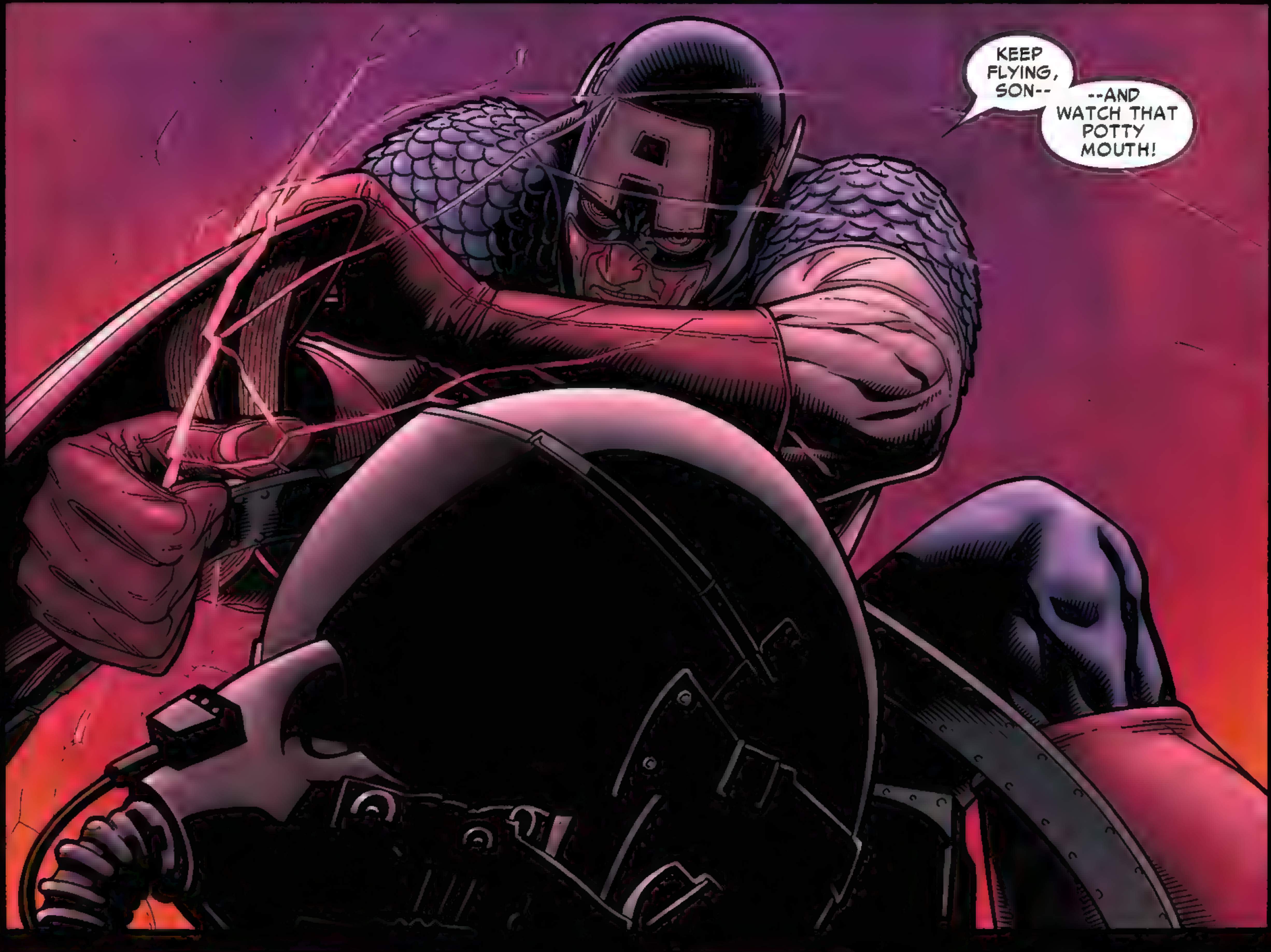
DAMN YOU
TO HELL FOR
THIS, HILL...











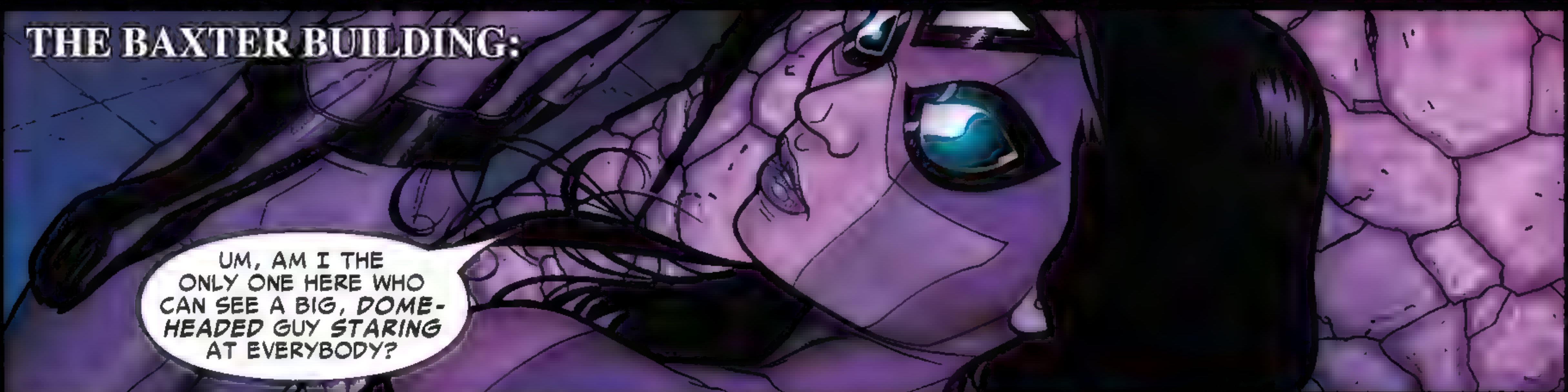




YOU
IDIOT.

WE WERE
TRYING TO SAVE
LIVES.

THE BAXTER BUILDING:



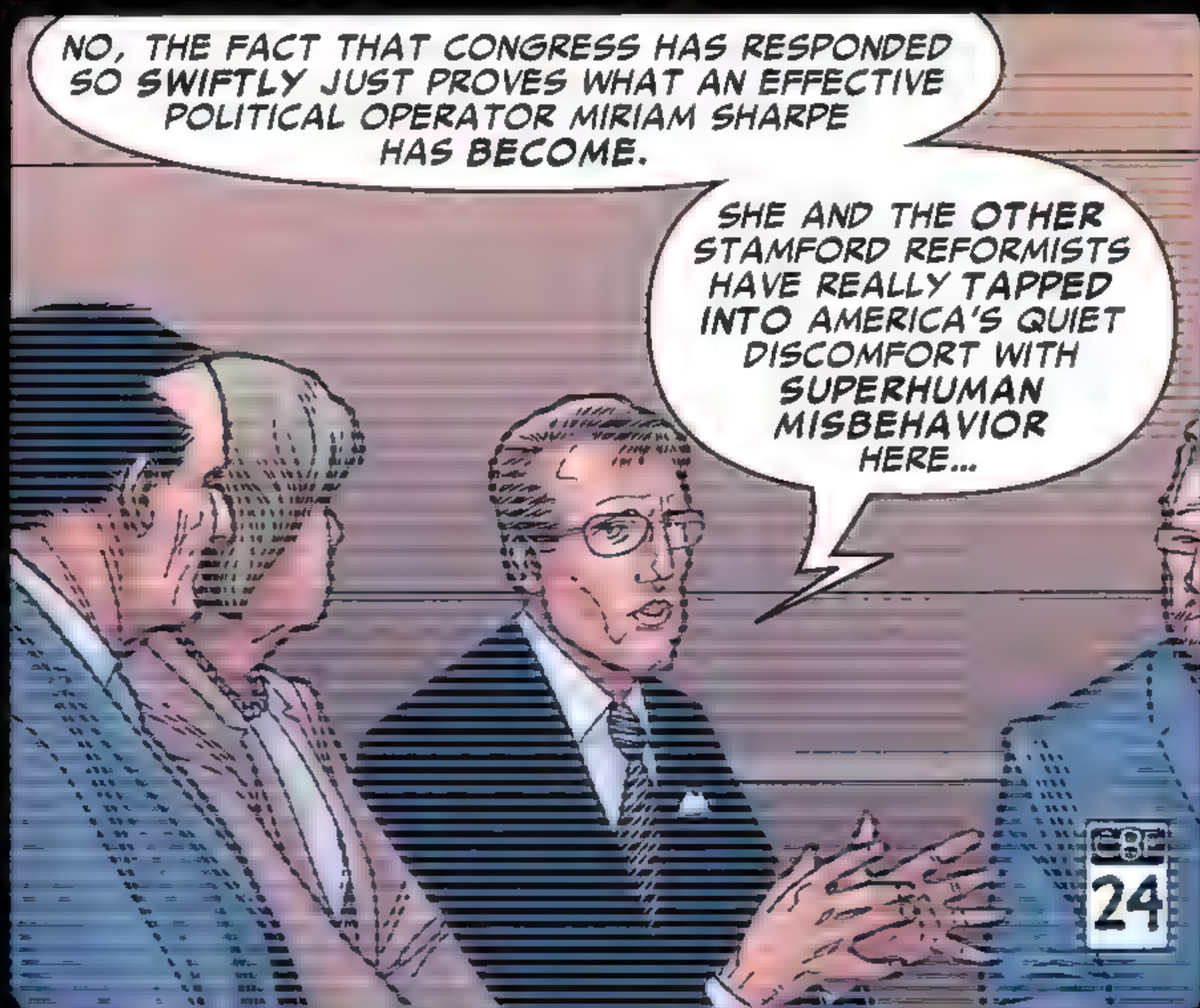
UM, AM I THE
ONLY ONE HERE WHO
CAN SEE A BIG, DOME-
HEADED GUY STARING
AT EVERYBODY?

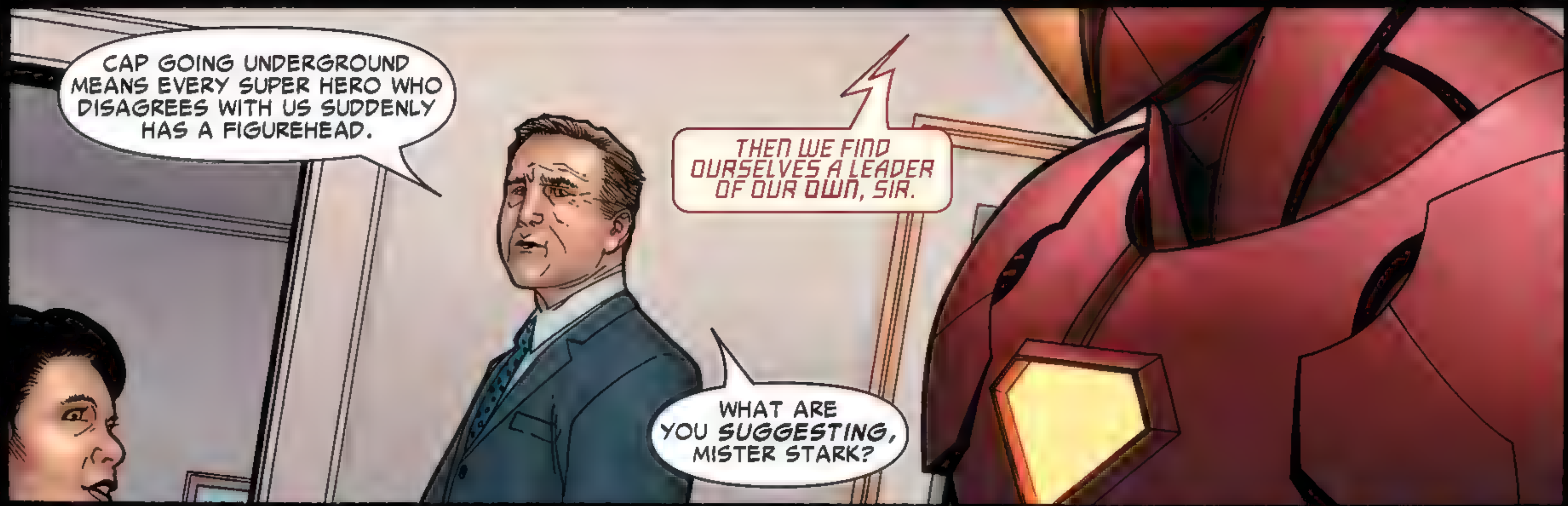
HIS NAME IS THE WATCHER,
SPIDER-WOMAN, AND HE ONLY APPEARS
TO RECORD MOMENTS OF GREAT
CHANGE AND ENORMOUS
UPHEAVAL.



HIS PRESENCE
NOW DOES NOT
BODE WELL.







CAP GOING UNDERGROUND
MEANS EVERY SUPER HERO WHO
DISAGREES WITH US SUDDENLY
HAS A FIGUREHEAD.

THEN WE FIND
OURSELVES A LEADER
OF OUR OWN, SIR.

WHAT ARE
YOU SUGGESTING,
MISTER STARK?



YOU PUSH AHEAD WITH
REGISTRATION AS
PLANNED, GENTLEMEN.

LEAVE CAPTAIN
AMERICA TO US.



WHOSE SIDE...
...ARE YOU ON?

THE MARVEL UNIVERSE IS CHANGING. AFTER THE RASH ACTIONS OF FOUR YOUNG HEROES CAUSE THE DESTRUCTION OF THE CITY OF STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT, THE PUBLIC CALLS FOR REFORM IN THE WAY SUPER HEROES CONDUCT THEIR AFFAIRS. A SUPERHUMAN REGISTRATION ACT IS PROPOSED, WHICH WOULD REQUIRE ALL THOSE POSSESSING PARANORMAL ABILITIES TO REGISTER WITH THE GOVERNMENT. REACTION AMONG THE SUPER HEROES IS SPLIT DOWN THE MIDDLE, WITH AN AWOL CAPTAIN AMERICA ON ONE SIDE AND A PRO-REGISTRATION IRON MAN ON THE OTHER. CIVIL WAR SEEMS INEVITABLE...



CIVIL WAR

MARK MILLAR

STEVE MCNIVEN

DEXTER VINES

MORRY HOLLOWELL

A MARVEL COMICS® EVENT IN SEVEN PARTS

CIVIL WAR

Hoping to boost their ratings, four New Warriors--young super heroes and reality television stars--attempt to apprehend a quartet of villains holed up in Stamford, Connecticut. When confronted, the explosive Nitro employs his self-detonation ability, blowing the heroes and a large chunk of Stamford into oblivion. The entire incident is caught on tape.

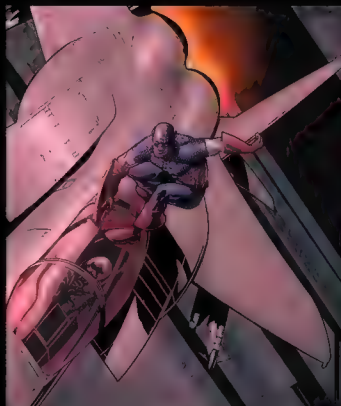
Casualties number in the hundreds.



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In response to this tragedy, public sentiment is turning against super heroes. Johnny Storm, the Human Torch, is attacked outside a nightclub and beaten into a coma. Advocate Miriam Sharpe, who lost her son in the Stamford Disaster, calls for reform in the way super heroes conduct their affairs. On Capitol Hill, a Superhuman Registration Act is debated which would require all those possessing paranormal abilities to register with the government, divulging their true identities to the authorities and submitting to training and sanctioning in the manner of federal agents.

Some heroes, such as Iron Man, see this as a natural evolution of the role of superhumans in society, and a reasonable request. Others, embodied by Captain America, take umbrage at this assault on their civil liberties.



When Captain America is called upon to hunt down his fellow heroes who are in defiance of the Registration Act, he chooses to go AWOL, becoming a public enemy in the process.

In a closed-door meeting with the President and his Cabinet, Iron Man, Mr. Fantastic and Yellowjacket vow to bring Cap to ground.



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**CAPTAIN
AMERICA GOES
UNDERGROUND:**

LUNATIC
BROKE MY DAMN
NOSE.

I THOUGHT
YOU IDIOTS WERE
SUPPOSED TO BE
HUNTING HIM
DOWN OR
SOMETHING.





MORE BAD GUYS, UNIT FIVE?

TWO UP HERE, AND THE BOYS DOWNSTAIRS SAY THEY'VE GOT THE TRAPSTER CHAINED TO A SINK IN THE MEN'S ROOM.

HOW MANY DOES THE VULTURE AND THE GRIM REAPER TAKE HIM UP TO, COMMANDER HILL? IS THAT EIGHT OF THESE FREAKS, OR NINE?



S.H.I.E.L.D. HELICARRIER, SIX MILES ABOVE NEW YORK CITY.

FIFTEEN, SERGEANT. FIFTEEN SUPER-CRIMINALS INSIDE SEVENTY-TWO HOURS.

BUT THE NUMBERS DON'T ADD UP. THERE'S JUST NO WAY CAPTAIN AMERICA COULD'VE TAKEN DOWN ALL THESE GUYS AT ONCE. IT'S PHYSICALLY IMPOSSIBLE.



MEANING?



OUR NIGHTMARE SCENARIO, UNIT FIVE.

I DON'T THINK HE'S ON HIS OWN ANYMORE.

New York Times

**REGISTRATION ACT
PASSED BY CONGRESS**

By Andrew Ross, New York Times Staff Writer
WASHINGTON — The House of Representatives passed a bill Tuesday that would require all superheroes to register with the federal government, a move that has drawn the wrath of comic book fans and the Justice Department. The bill, known as the Superhero Registration Act, was passed by a vote of 220-210. It would require all superheroes to register with the federal government, provide their true identities, and disclose their powers. Failure to do so would result in a fine of up to \$100,000 and a prison sentence of up to 10 years. The bill also gives the government the right to draft superheroes into the military. The bill was introduced by Rep. James Sensenbrenner (R-Wis.) and has already passed the House. It is now in the Senate, where it is expected to pass as well. The bill has been criticized by comic book fans and the Justice Department, who argue that it would infringe on the First Amendment. However, supporters of the bill argue that it is necessary to protect the public from the potential dangers of superheroes. The bill is expected to become law in the near future.

DAILY BUGLE

**CAPTAIN AMERICA
GOES INTO HIDING**

By Benin, Daily Bugle Staff Writer
NEW YORK — Captain America has disappeared from the public eye since the passage of the Superhero Registration Act. The hero, who has been a symbol of American patriotism for decades, is now believed to be in hiding. The Daily Bugle has received several tips from informants that Captain America is still active, but they have been unable to locate him. The hero's disappearance has caused a stir among the public, who are concerned about the safety of the city. The Justice Department has also expressed concern, as they believe Captain America's actions could be a threat to national security. The hero's disappearance has also led to speculation that he may have been recruited by the government. However, Captain America's friends and allies believe that he is still out there, waiting for the right moment to make his return. The Daily Bugle will continue to search for the hero, and the public will be kept informed of any developments.

The Boston Globe

**PRESIDENT PROMISES
SWIFT ACTION**

By Boston Globe Staff
WASHINGTON — President Obama has promised swift action on the Superhero Registration Act, a bill that would require all superheroes to register with the federal government. The president said that he would sign the bill as soon as it passes the Senate. He also said that he would work to ensure that the bill is implemented as quickly as possible. The president's promise has been welcomed by supporters of the bill, who believe that it is necessary to protect the public from the potential dangers of superheroes. However, it has also been criticized by comic book fans and the Justice Department, who argue that the bill would infringe on the First Amendment. The president's promise has also led to speculation that he may be planning to draft superheroes into the military. The president has not yet said whether he would do so. The bill is expected to become law in the near future.

The Washington Post

**TONY STARK NOW
BACKING SUPER HERO
REFORM**

By Washington Post Staff Writer
WASHINGTON — Tony Stark, the billionaire industrialist who created the Iron Man armor, has announced that he is now backing the Superhero Registration Act. The act would require all superheroes to register with the federal government, provide their true identities, and disclose their powers. Tony Stark, who has been a vocal critic of the act in the past, has changed his position. He now believes that the act is necessary to protect the public from the potential dangers of superheroes. Tony Stark's announcement has been welcomed by supporters of the act, who believe that it is necessary to protect the public from the potential dangers of superheroes. However, it has also been criticized by comic book fans and the Justice Department, who argue that the act would infringe on the First Amendment. Tony Stark's announcement has also led to speculation that he may be planning to draft superheroes into the military. Tony Stark has not yet said whether he would do so. The act is expected to become law in the near future.

OBVIOUSLY, I'M DISAPPOINTED CAPTAIN AMERICA'S TAKING A STAND LIKE THIS, BUT I COULDN'T BE HAPPIER ABOUT IRON MAN COMING ON BOARD.

STILL, THERE'S SEVEN DAYS BEFORE THE ACT BECOMES LAW, SO THERE'S PLENTY OF TIME FOR CAP TO SEE SENSE.

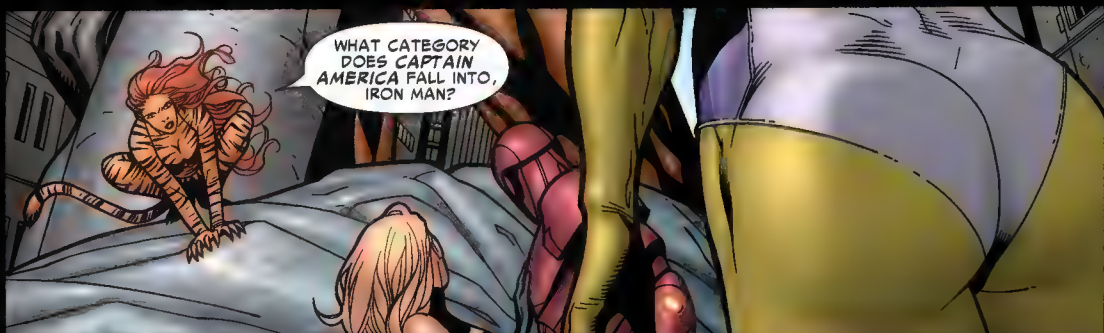
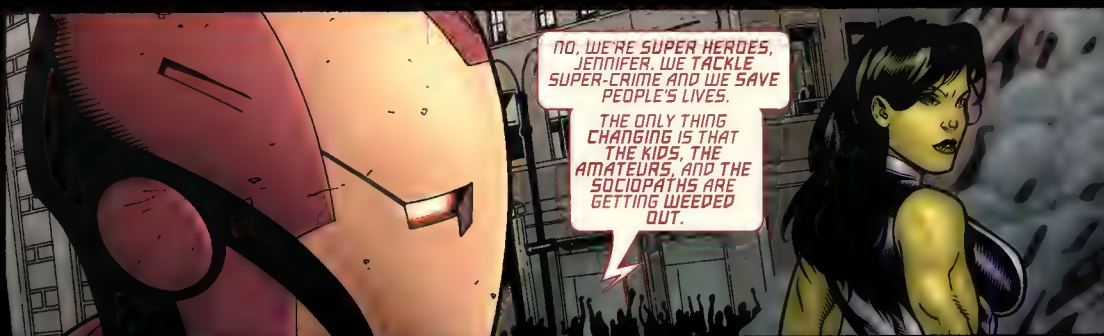
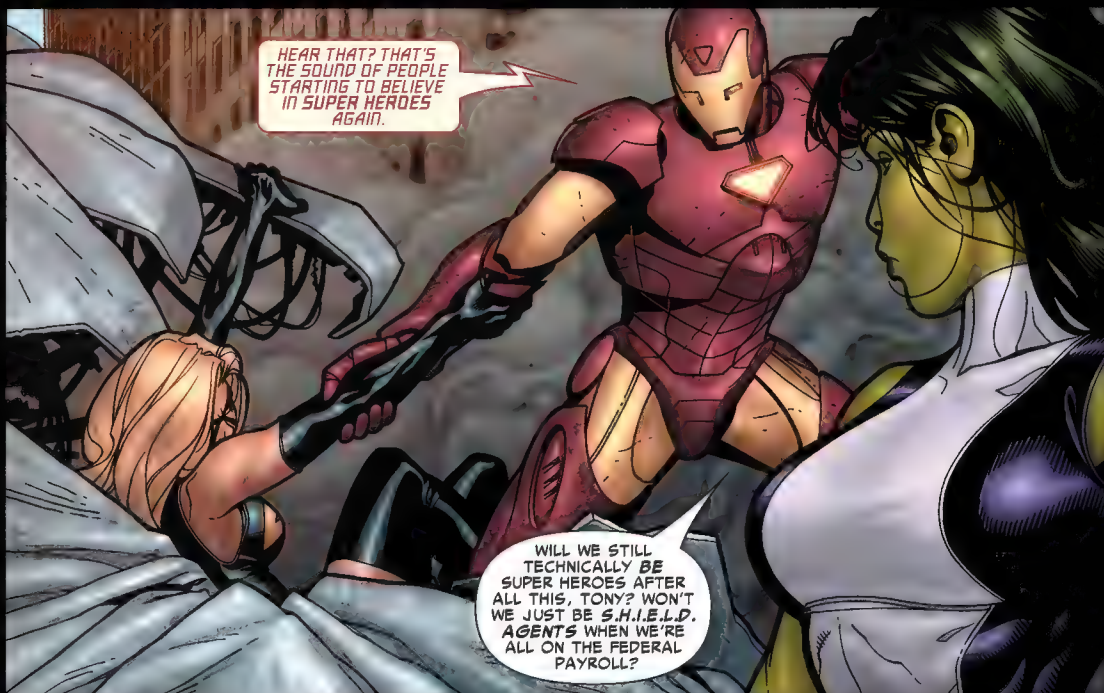
A woman with brown hair is being interviewed by a reporter. The reporter is holding a microphone and a camera. Tony Stark is in the background, looking on.

NEW YORK CITY:

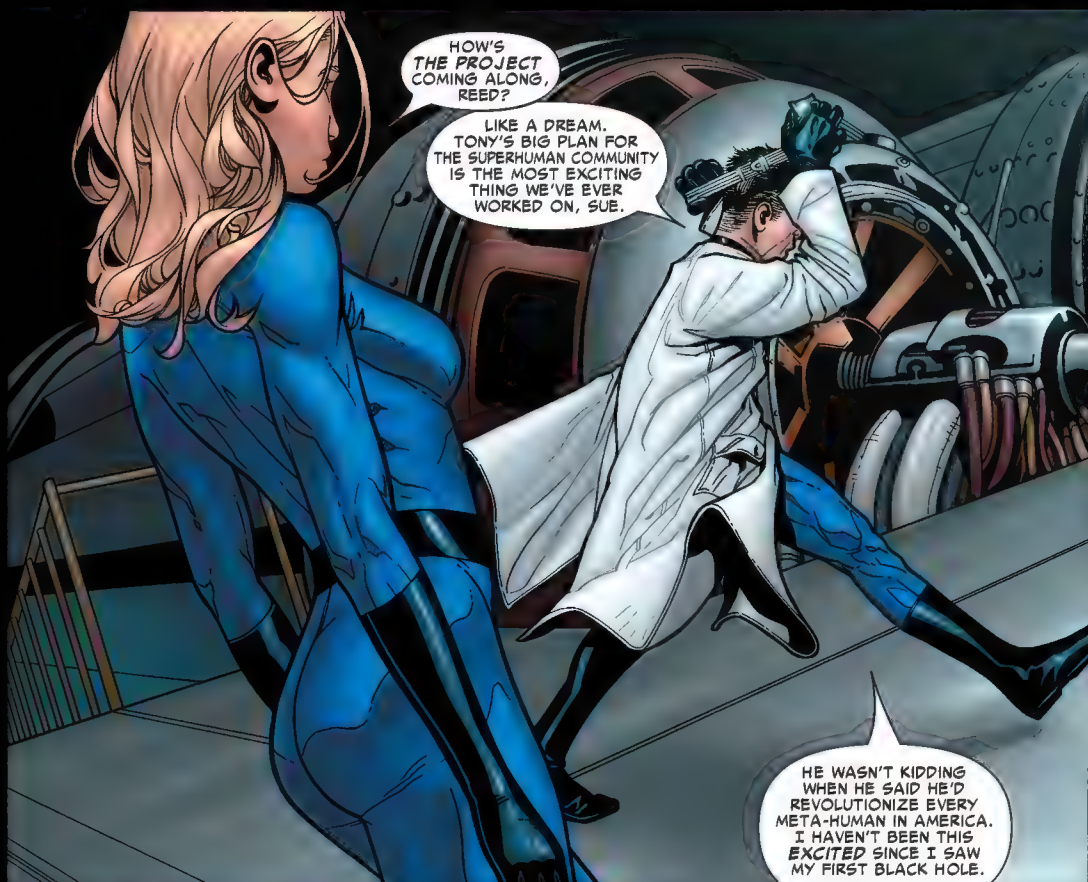
TAKE IT EASY, FOLKS. THE DOOMBOT'S DOWN.

Iron Man is fighting a large, mechanical Doombot in the middle of a city street. The Doombot is being crushed by a large pile of rubble. Iron Man is standing on top of the rubble, looking down at the Doombot. The city street is filled with debris and smoke. Other people are visible in the background, some running and some taking cover.

A crowd of people is cheering and celebrating. In the foreground, a man in a suit is shouting with his mouth open. Next to him, a man with a beard and sunglasses is also shouting. In the background, a woman is cheering. The crowd is diverse and appears to be in a state of excitement.



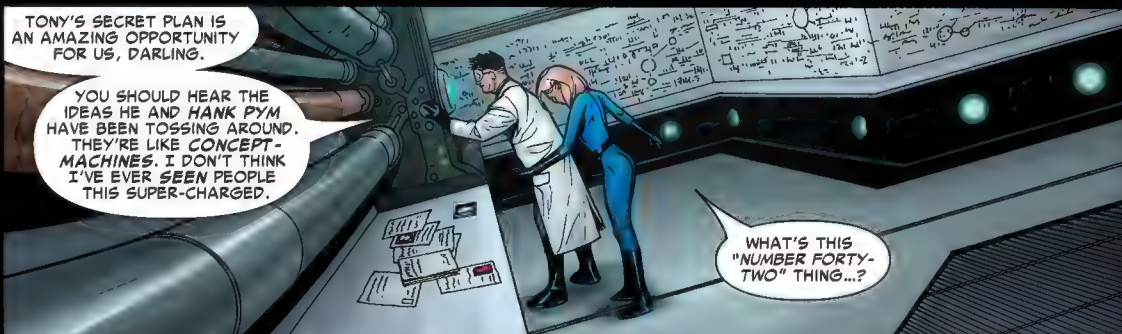
THE BAXTER BUILDING,
HOME OF THE FANTASTIC
FOUR:





WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? THIS IS GOBBLEDYGOOK.

NO, IT'S THE EXPONENTIAL CURVE THE NUMBER OF SUPER-BEINGS IS FOLLOWING AND THE APOCALYPSE WE'RE FACING IF UNLICENSED ACTIVITY ISN'T BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL.



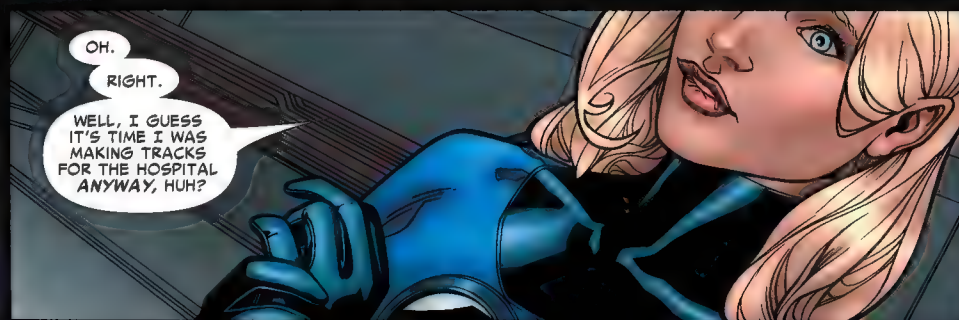
TONY'S SECRET PLAN IS AN AMAZING OPPORTUNITY FOR US, DARLING.

YOU SHOULD HEAR THE IDEAS HE AND HANK PYM HAVE BEEN TOSsing AROUND. THEY'RE LIKE CONCEPT-MACHINES. I DON'T THINK I'VE EVER SEEN PEOPLE THIS SUPER-CHARGED.

WHAT'S THIS "NUMBER FORTY-TWO" THING...?



I'M SORRY, SUSAN, BUT I'M AFRAID THAT'S CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.



OH.

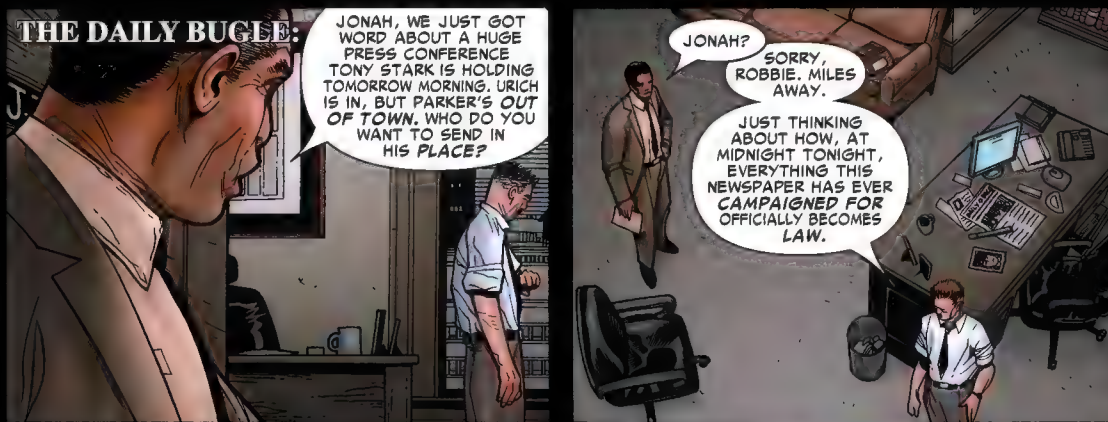
RIGHT.

WELL, I GUESS IT'S TIME I WAS MAKING TRACKS FOR THE HOSPITAL ANYWAY, HUH?



MM.

GIVE JOHNNY ALL MY LOVE.



THE DAILY BUGLE:

JONAH, WE JUST GOT WORD ABOUT A HUGE PRESS CONFERENCE TONY STARK IS HOLDING TOMORROW MORNING. URICH IS IN, BUT PARKER'S OUT OF TOWN. WHO DO YOU WANT TO SEND IN HIS PLACE?

JONAH?

SORRY, ROBBIE. MILES AWAY.

JUST THINKING ABOUT HOW, AT MIDNIGHT TONIGHT, EVERYTHING THIS NEWSPAPER HAS EVER CAMPAIGNED FOR OFFICIALLY BECOMES LAW.



NO MORE MASKS AND NO MORE EXCUSES ABOUT CREEPY SECRET IDENTITIES. THESE CLOWNS FINALLY WORK FOR S.H.I.E.L.D. OR THEY THROW THEIR BUTTS IN JAIL.

YOU REALLY THINK THE SUPER HEROES ARE ALL GOING TO SIGN UP?



NO. JUST THE SMART ONES.

TONY STARK'S PENTHOUSE:

TWENTY MINUTES TO GO, TONY.
WORD FROM S.H.I.E.L.D. IS THAT WE'RE
LOOKING AT THIRTY-EIGHT SIGNATURES
ALREADY. THAT'S PRETTY MUCH WHAT
YOU ESTIMATED, RIGHT?

PRETTY MUCH,
HAPPY. ANY WORD
FROM CAP?

ONLY THAT HE'S
PUTTING HIS OWN TEAM
TOGETHER AND HE'LL SEE
THIS THING TO THE
FINISH.

OH, GOD.

PLEASE LET
US BE DOING
THE RIGHT
THING HERE...

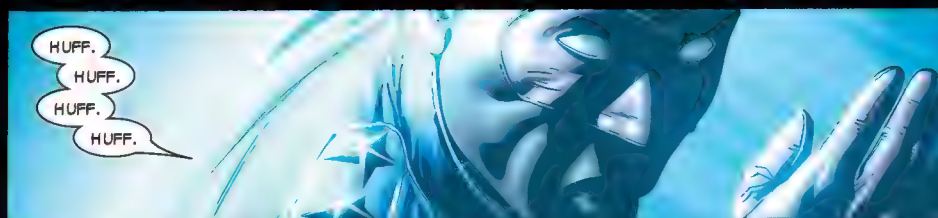
MIDNIGHT:

REGISTRATION
ACT BECOMES
LAW

SONY

REGISTRATION ACT BECOMES LAW REGISTRATION

24 HOURS LATER:



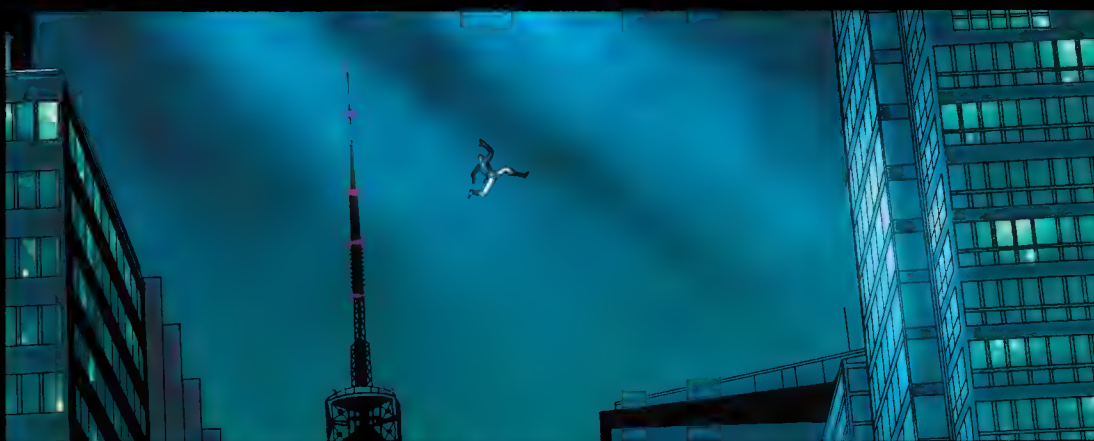
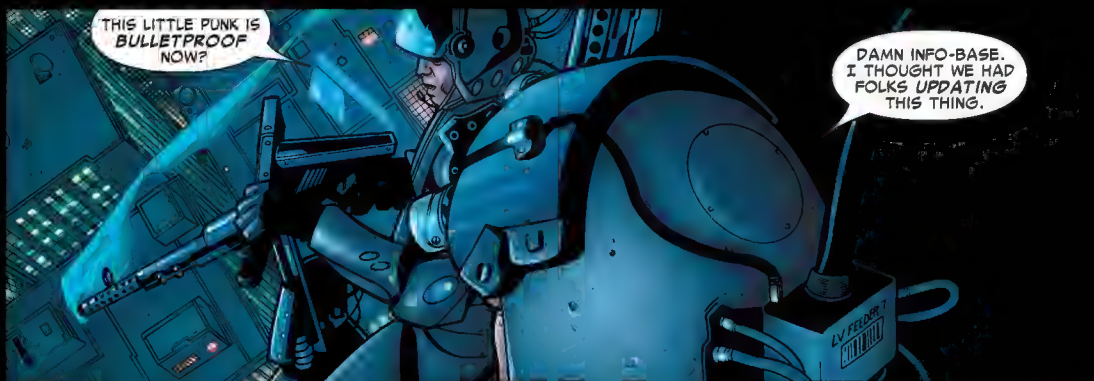
HUFF.
HUFF.
HUFF.
HUFF.

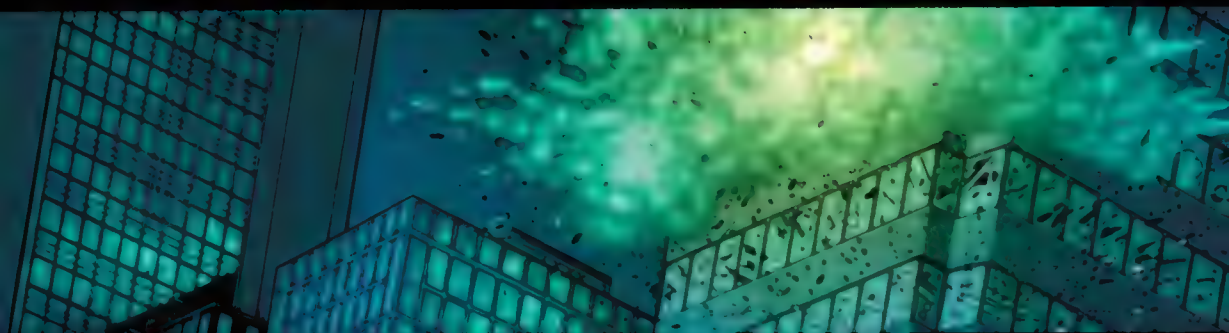


UNREGISTERED MINOR
TRIED TO FOIL A ROBBERY
IN **COSTUME**, AIR-COMMAND.
IDENTIFIED AS CODENAME
PATRIOT FROM THE **YOUNG
AVENGERS**. AM CURRENTLY
IN PURSUIT.

ROGER THAT,
FOXTROT-FOUR. PERMISSION
TO USE TRANQUILIZERS
AND MINIMUM FORCE.







YOU SURE THAT KID'S
INDESTRUCTIBLE?

HE'LL BE FINE.
IT'S THE OFFICE
BLOCK I'M WORRIED
ABOUT, DUDE. COMMAND
SAID *PROPERTY*
DAMAGE GOTTA BE
KEPT TO A MINIMUM
OR IT'S HEAD-
ROLLING TIME.

YOU SEE THE TROUBLE YOU
CAUSED? YOU SEE WHAT HAPPENS
WHEN YOU TRY TO BE SOME BIG
BAD VIGILANTE LIKE YOUR BUDDY,
CAPTAIN AMERICA?

ELSEWHERE:

S.H.I.E.L.D. UNIT
JUST PICKED UP
THE YOUNG
AVENGERS ON
WEST 23RD. SHOULD
WE GET A POSSE
TOGETHER AND
INTERCEPT?

CAP AND THE FALCON
ARE ALREADY UNDERCOVER
ON THE SCENE, DAREDEVIL.
COCKY MISTER WILSON
EVEN TOLD ME TO GET
THE DAMN COFFEE
ON.



SEE, THIS IS WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT: THESE KIDS ARE WHAT--SIXTEEN YEARS OLD? SEVENTEEN, TOPS? AND THEY'RE OUT THERE IN THEIR PANTYHOSE **LAUGHING** IN OUR **FACES**.

IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE **BANNING** 'EM, MAN. NOBODY'S **STOPPING** 'EM DOING THEIR THING. HELL, THEY'RE EVEN **PAYING** THESE CLOWNS TO GO OFFICIAL NOW.



BUT THEY DON'T GET A **BUZZ** OUTTA BEIN' LEGIT. **FREAKS** ONLY **GET OFF** ON THE MASKS AND THAT "MYSTERY MAN" **GARBAGE**.



GONNA BE ONE COLD SHOWER WHEN THEY SEE THE NEW PEN THEY'RE BUILDING FOR THESE SUPER-CREEPS. YOU HEARD ABOUT THIS PLACE? THIS "NUMBER FORTY-TWO" THING THEY'RE CONSTRUCTIN'?

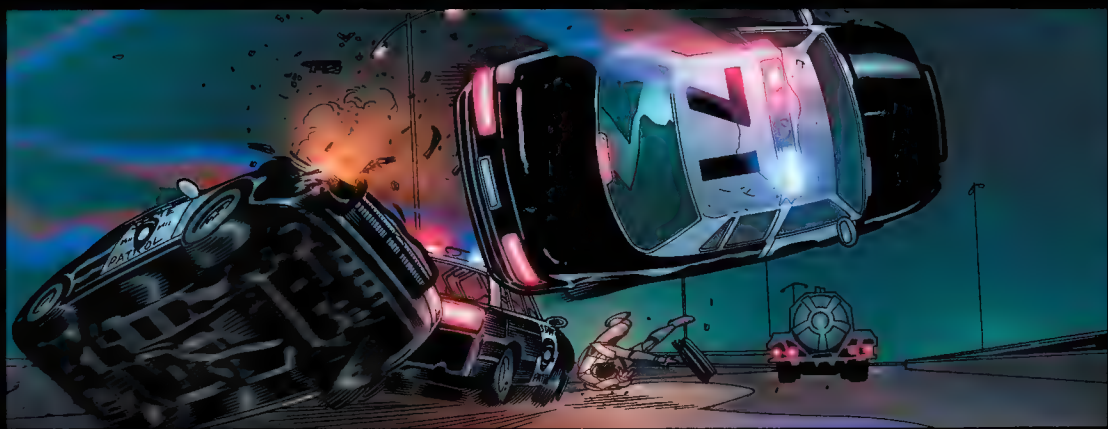
FRANK IN SUPPLIES SAID YOU'RE NOT EVEN ALLOWED TO LOOK AT THE **BLUEPRINTS** WITHOUT THESE WEIRD-ASS **SPECIAL GOGGLES**.

YOU KNOW SOMETHING, FELLA?



YOU TALK TOO MUCH!

**SON
OF A--!**



WICCAN, I NEED YOU TO
RUSTLE UP ONE OF YOUR
TELEPORTATION SPELLS
AND I NEED IT NOW.
UNDERSTAND?

Y-YES,
SIR.



ATTENTION ALL UNITS IN
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON
BRIDGE AREA! SUSPECTED
HIJACKING OF S.H.I.E.L.D.
BUS ONE!

PLEASE
ATTEND! I
REPEAT: PLEASE
ATTEND!

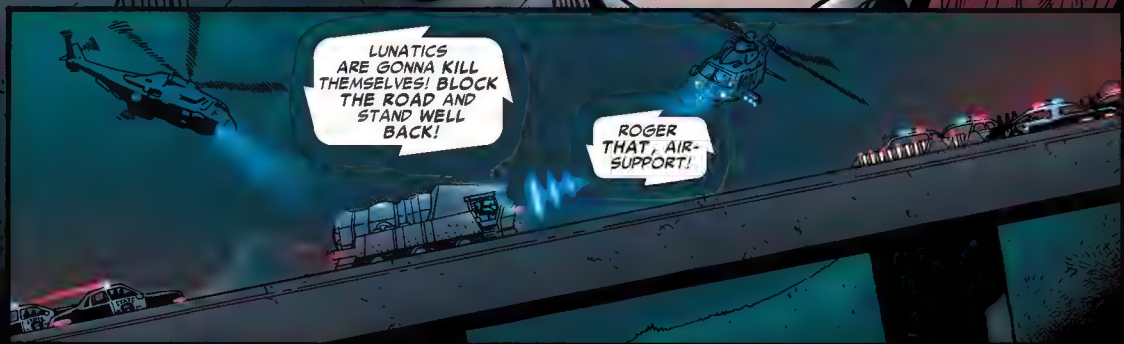


COPS ARE
BLOCKING THE
ROAD ALREADY,
FALCON!



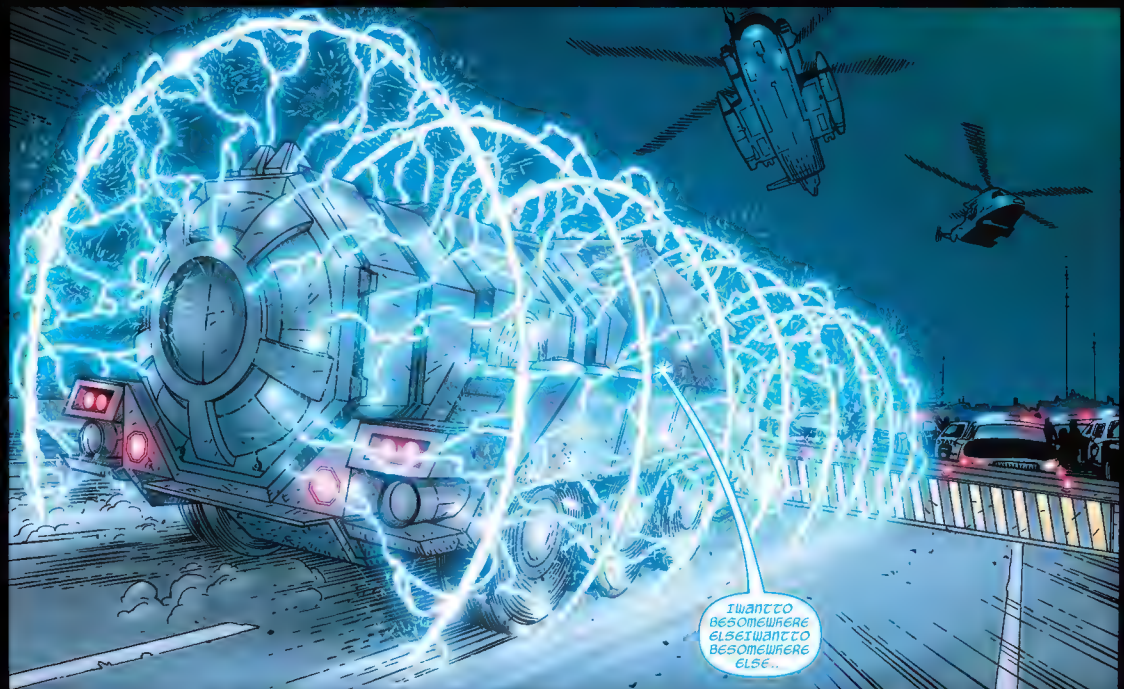
WOULD YOU
HURRY UP WITH
THAT FREAKIN'
SPELL?

I WANT TO
BESOMEWHERE
ELSE I WANT TO
BESOMEWHERE
ELSE...

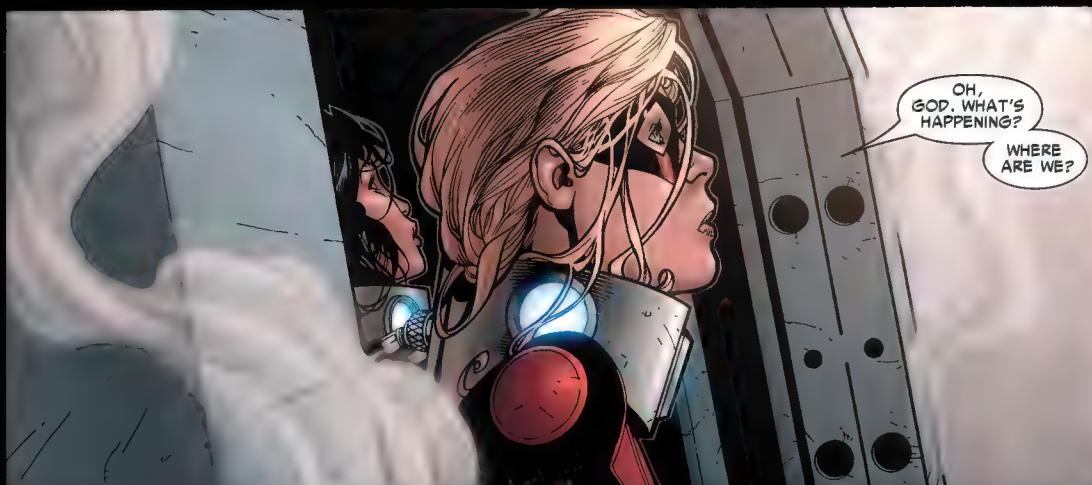
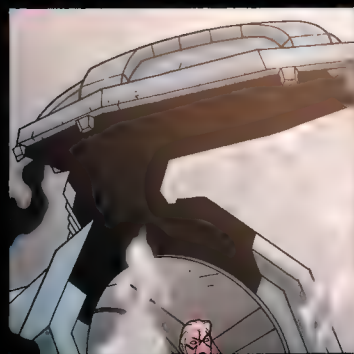
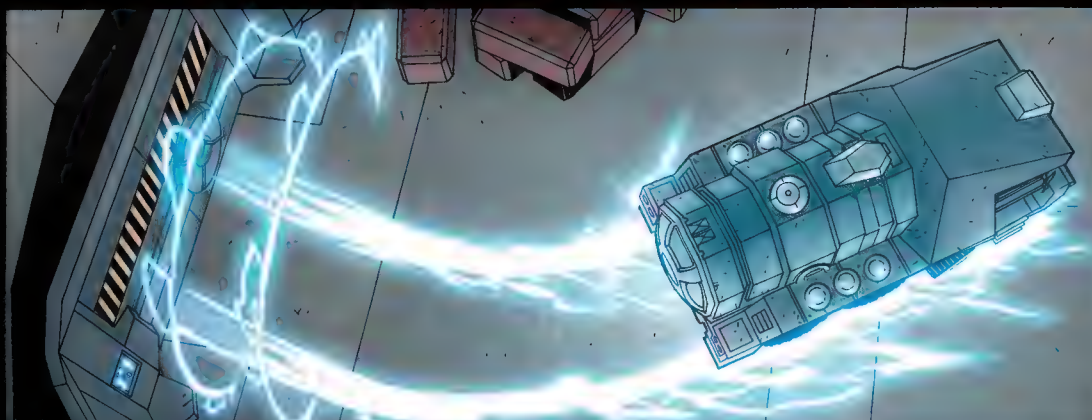


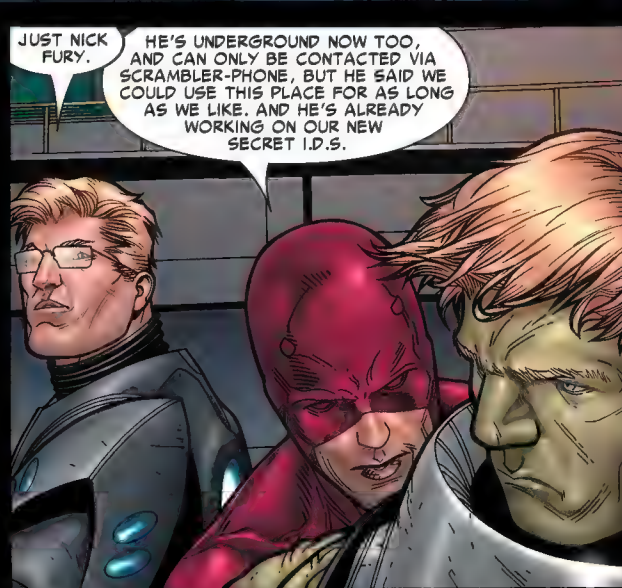
LUNATICS
ARE GONNA KILL
THEMSELVES! BLOCK
THE ROAD AND
STAND WELL
BACK!

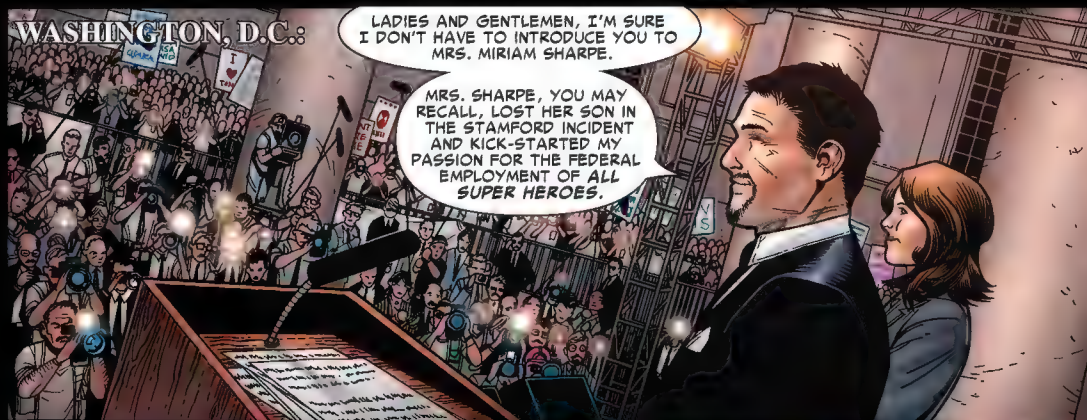
ROGER
THAT, AIR-
SUPPORT!



I WANT TO
BESOMEWHERE
ELSE I WANT TO
BESOMEWHERE
ELSE...







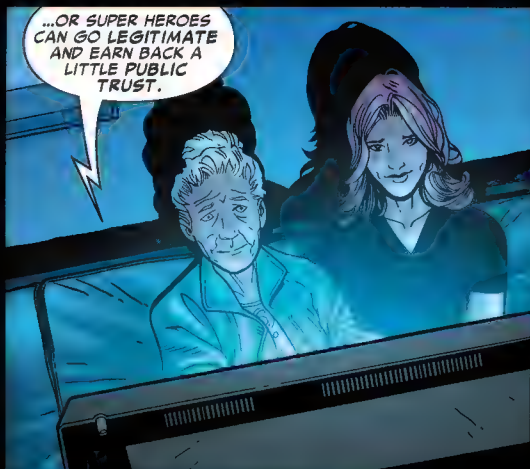


UM, AS MOST OF YOU PROBABLY KNOW, I'VE, UH, GUARDED MY SECRET IDENTITY PRETTY CAREFULLY OVER THE YEARS...

...AND IT'S ONLY AFTER A LONG TALK WITH MY WIFE AND FAMILY THAT I'VE DECIDED TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING STEP.



SEE, THE REGISTRATION ACT GIVES US A CHOICE: WE CAN CONTINUE THE TREND THAT CAPTAIN AMERICA ADVOCATES AND HAVE PEOPLE WITH POWERS COMPLETELY UNCHECKED...



...OR SUPER HEROES CAN GO LEGITIMATE AND EARN BACK A LITTLE PUBLIC TRUST.



MISTER JAMESON?

MISS GRANT, YOU EVEN THINK ABOUT ASKING ME WHAT I WANT FOR BREAKFAST AND YOU'RE FIRED, LITTLE LADY.



I'M NOT WEARING MY OLD MASK BECAUSE I'M ASHAMED OF WHAT I DO. I'M PROUD OF WHO I AM, AND I'M HERE RIGHT NOW TO PROVE IT...





ANY
QUESTIONS?



WHOSE SIDE...
...ARE YOU ON?

THE MARVEL UNIVERSE IS CHANGING. AFTER THE RASH ACTIONS OF FOUR YOUNG HEROES CAUSE THE DESTRUCTION OF THE CITY OF STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT, A SUPERHUMAN REGISTRATION ACT IS PASSED BY CONGRESS, AND NOW ALL THOSE POSSESSING PARANORMAL ABILITIES ARE REQUIRED TO REGISTER WITH THE GOVERNMENT. REACTION AMONG THE SUPER HEROES IS SPLIT DOWN THE MIDDLE, WITH AN AWOL CAPTAIN AMERICA ON ONE SIDE AND A PRO-REGISTRATION IRON MAN ON THE OTHER. AS HEROES ALL OVER THE COUNTRY ARE BEING ARRESTED FOR REFUSING TO REGISTER, SPIDER-MAN MAKES A BOLD MOVE AND UNMASKS IN FRONT OF THE MEDIA...



CIVIL WAR

MARK MILLAR
STEVE MCNIVEN
DEXTER VINES
MORRY HOLLOWELL

A MARVEL COMICS EVENT IN SEVEN PARTS

CIVIL WAR

After Stamford, Connecticut is destroyed during a televised fight between the New Warriors and a group of dangerous villains, public sentiment turns against super heroes.

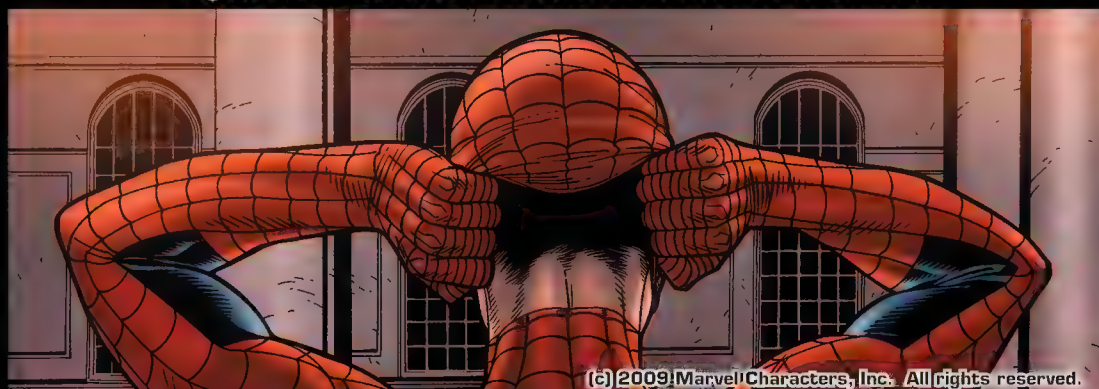
Johnny Storm, the Human Torch, is attacked outside a nightclub and beaten into a coma. Advocates call for reform, and a Superhuman Registration Act is debated, which would require all those possessing paranormal abilities to register with the government, divulge their true identities to the authorities and submit to training and sanctioning in the manner of federal agents.

One week later, the Act is passed. Any person with superhuman powers who refuses to register is now a criminal.



Some heroes, such as Iron Man, see this as a natural evolution of the role of superhumans in society, and a reasonable request. Others view the Act as an assault on their civil liberties. After being called upon to hunt down heroes in defiance of the Registration Act, Captain America goes underground and begins to form a resistance movement.

Spider-Man, who has allied himself with Iron Man and the pro-registration side, not only registers, but also unmask as Peter Parker in front of the media.



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VARIANT COVER BY MICHAEL TURNER & ASPEN

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THE BLACK PANTHER, WAKANDA:

YOU UNMASKED SPIDER-MAN ON LIVE TELEVISION?

NO, PARKER UNMASKED VOLUNTARILY, T'CHALLA, BECAUSE IRON MAN EXPLAINED THE GRAVITY OF OUR SITUATION.

CONFIDENCE IN SUPER-HUMANS IS AT AN ALL-TIME LOW. STARK'S PLAN FOR A NEW BEGINNING IS THE ONLY CHANCE WE HAVE LEFT.

A SUPER POLICE FORCE COVERING ALL FIFTY STATES? AND ME HELPING HIM HUNT DOWN THE SUPER HEROES WHO DISAGREE WITH IT?

I DON'T THINK SO, REED. WE DON'T LIKE IT WHEN AMERICA INTERFERES IN WAKANDAN AFFAIRS, AND I CAN ONLY ASSUME THE FEELING IS RECIPROCATED.

ACTUALLY, THE PRESIDENT REQUESTED THIS OF YOU PERSONALLY...

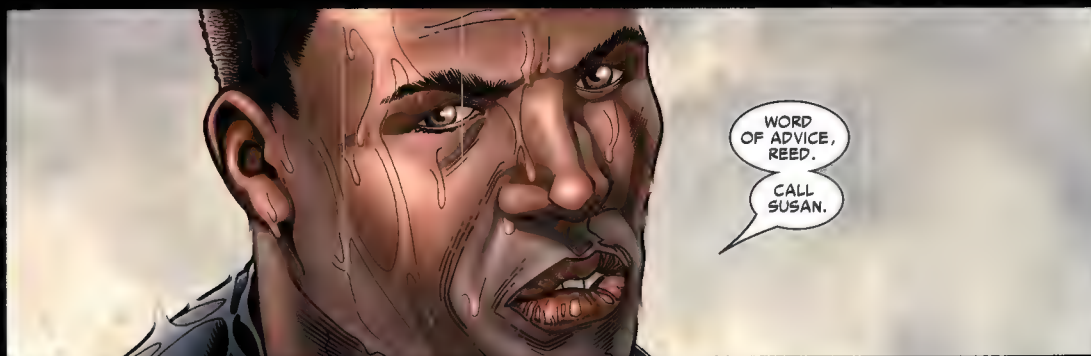
WELL, I'M AFRAID HE'S GOING TO BE DISAPPOINTED. NOW TELL ME: WHAT ABOUT JOHNNY STORM? IS THE HUMAN TORCH RECOVERING WELL?

I HAVEN'T CHECKED IN FOR A DAY OR TWO, BUT SUSAN'S BARELY LEFT HIS BEDSIDE. IF ANYTHING WAS WRONG, I'M SURE I'D HAVE HEARD.

I LOVE IT OUT HERE, DON'T YOU? THIS HIGH-TECH JUNGLE.

IT'S SO EERIE STANDING AMONG TREES WITHOUT BIRDS OR INSECTS.

I'VE ALWAYS MEANT TO ASK: DOES THE ECO-SYSTEM ADAPT ITSELF OR HAVE YOU MANIPULATED IT ARTIFICIALLY?



WORD OF ADVICE, REED.

CALL SUSAN.



DOCTOR STRANGE, GREENWICH VILLAGE:

I'M SORRY, YELLOWJACKET, BUT THE MASTER SAID HE WOULDN'T EVEN **CONSIDER** SUPPORTING TONY STARK'S PLANS.

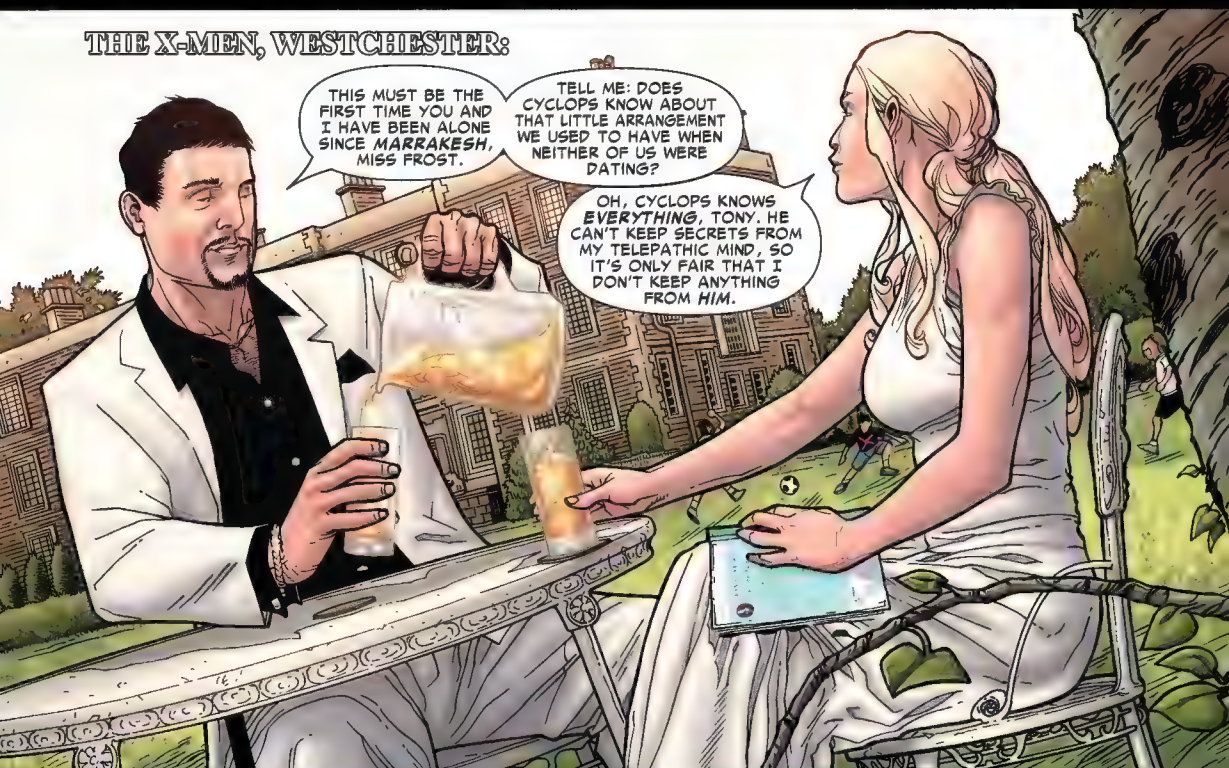
IN FACT, HE'S GONE INTO SECLUSION IN HIS ARCTIC LODGE IN THE HOPE THAT HE MIGHT **RESOLVE** YOUR DIFFERENCES BY **FASTING** FOR FORTY NIGHTS.

WELL, HE KNOWS WHERE TO FIND US IF HE CHANGES HIS MIND, WONG.

DAMN WATCH ALWAYS SEEMS TO STOP WHEN I'M IN THIS STUPID HOUSE.



THE X-MEN, WESTCHESTER:



THIS MUST BE THE FIRST TIME YOU AND I HAVE BEEN ALONE SINCE MARRAKESH, MISS FROST.

TELL ME: DOES CYCLOPS KNOW ABOUT THAT LITTLE ARRANGEMENT WE USED TO HAVE WHEN NEITHER OF US WERE DATING?

OH, CYCLOPS KNOWS EVERYTHING, TONY. HE CAN'T KEEP SECRETS FROM MY TELEPATHIC MIND, SO IT'S ONLY FAIR THAT I DON'T KEEP ANYTHING FROM HIM.



MY. YOU REALLY HAVE CHANGED.



OBSOLETELY, YOU KNOW WHAT I'M ABOUT TO ASK. IS THERE ANY POINT IN VERBALIZING?

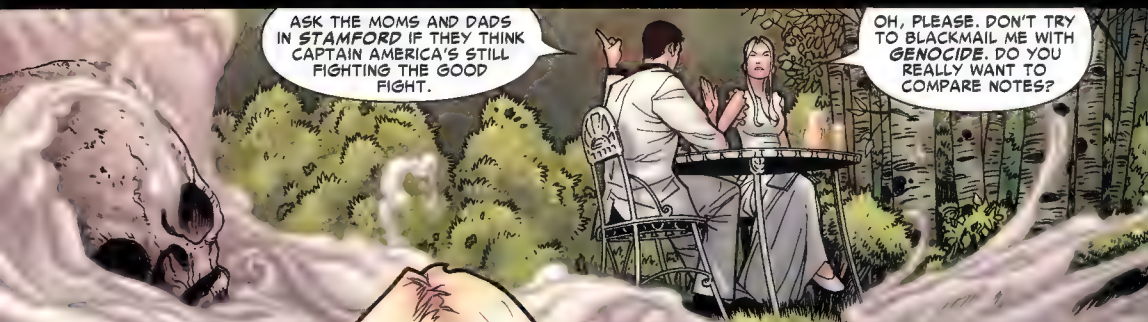
NOT ESPECIALLY. WE HAD A MEETING JUST LAST NIGHT AND DECIDED THAT HELPING YOU HUNT DOWN THESE ANTI-REGISTRATION REBELS WOULD BE A VIOLATION OF EVERYTHING THE X-MEN BELIEVE IN.



EVEN WITH NINETY-PERCENT PUBLIC BACKING? AND THAT BOYFRIEND OF YOURS SO KEEN TO CURRY FAVOR WITH THE WHITE HOUSE AGAIN?



PERHAPS WE JUST KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE PERSECUTED WHILE YOU'RE FIGHTING THE GOOD FIGHT, MISTER STARK.



ASK THE MOMS AND DADS IN STAMFORD IF THEY THINK CAPTAIN AMERICA'S STILL FIGHTING THE GOOD FIGHT.

OH, PLEASE. DON'T TRY TO BLACKMAIL ME WITH GENOCIDE. DO YOU REALLY WANT TO COMPARE NOTES?

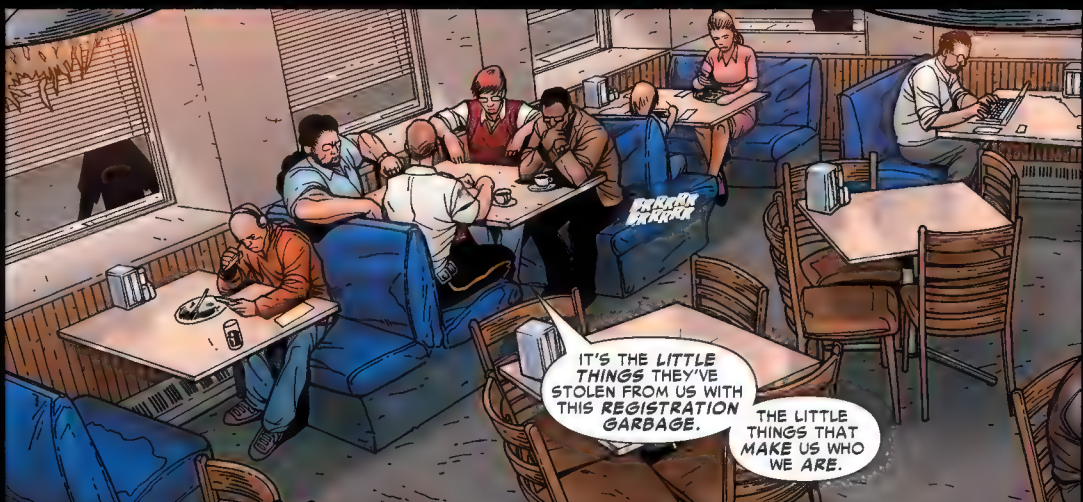
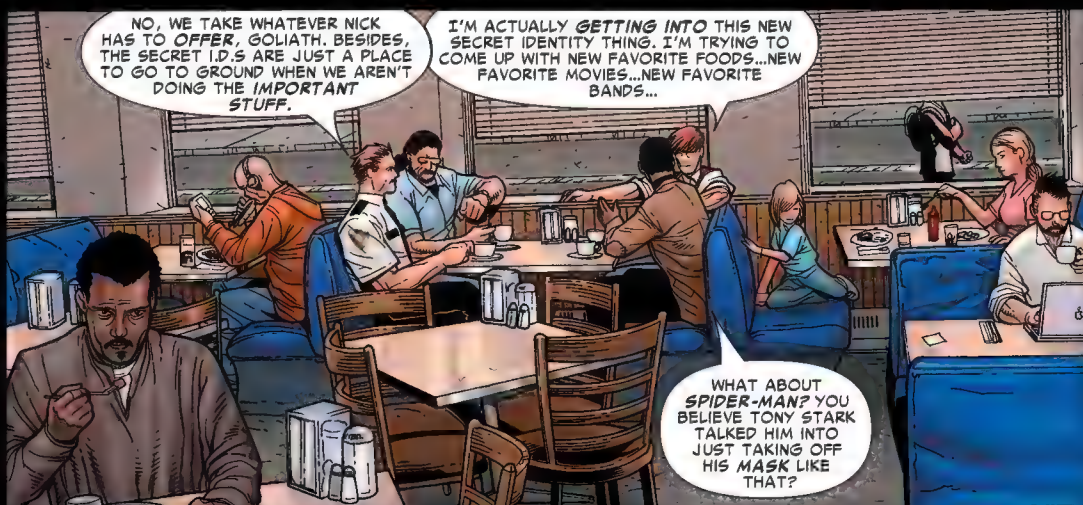


WHERE WERE THE AVENGERS WHEN GENOSHA DIED, IRON MAN?

WHERE WERE YOU WHEN OUR BABIES WERE BURNING?



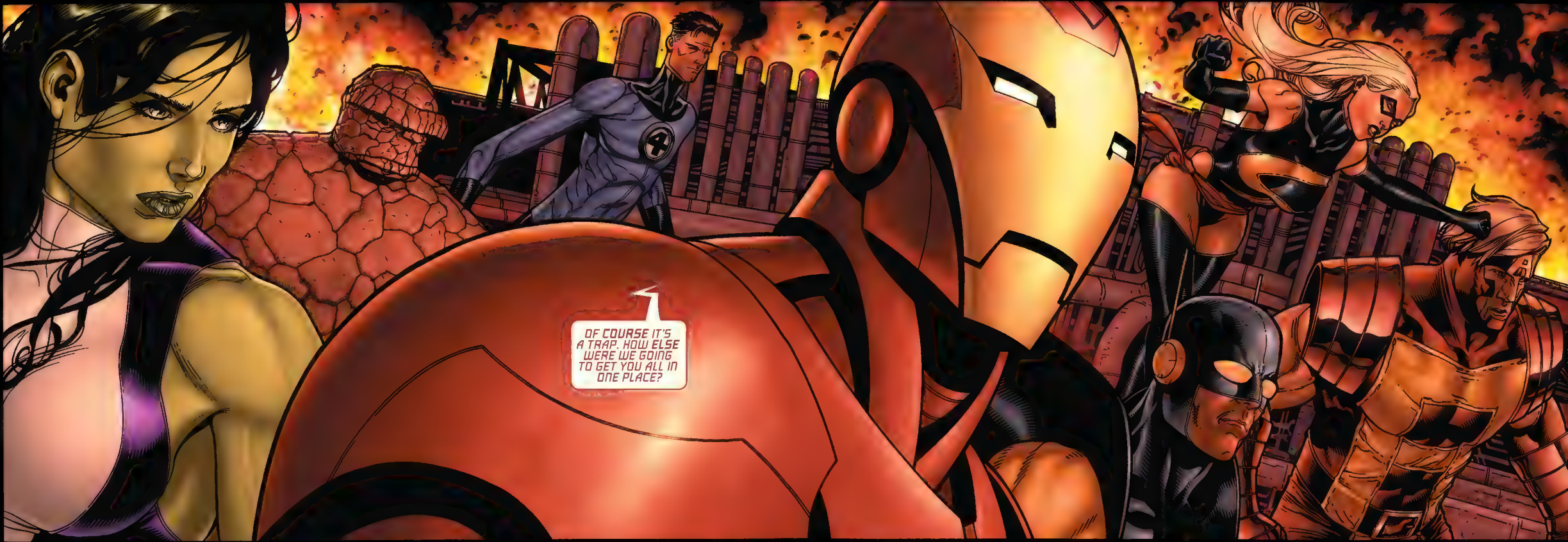






GEFFEN-MEYER CHEMICALS:





OF COURSE IT'S A TRAP. HOW ELSE WERE WE GOING TO GET YOU ALL IN ONE PLACE?



WHAT THE HELL HAVE THEY DONE TO THEM, CAP? THEY'RE OUT COLD!



JUST A LITTLE TRANQUILIZER TO MAKE SURE NOBODY GETS TELEPORTED AWAY, KIDDO.

SKY-BIRD ONE, YOU GOT THESE GUYS IN YOUR SIGHTS?



READY WHEN YOU ARE, SPIDER-MAN. JUST GIVE THE WORD.



S.H.I.E.L.D. HELICARRIER:

MARIA HILL TO ALL AIRBORNE AGENTS: YOU ARE ONLY THERE IN A SUPPORT CAPACITY. HOLD YOUR FIRE AND AWAIT FURTHER ORDERS.



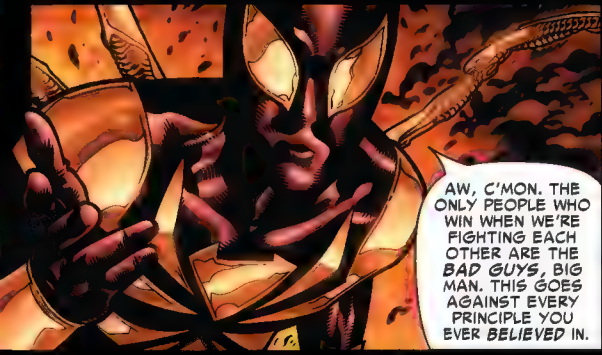
YOUR
PAYMASTERS
GOING SOFT,
TONY?

WE DIDN'T COME
HERE TO ARREST
YOU, CAP. I TALKED
S.H.I.E.L.D. INTO
OFFERING YOU ONE
FINAL AMNESTY.



YOU MEAN A
SURRENDER?

THANKS, BUT
I THINK I'D
RATHER TAKE
MY CHANCES.



AW, C'MON. THE
ONLY PEOPLE WHO
WIN WHEN WE'RE
FIGHTING EACH
OTHER ARE THE
BAD GUYS, BIG
MAN. THIS GOES
AGAINST EVERY
PRINCIPLE YOU
EVER BELIEVED IN.



DON'T TALK TO ME ABOUT
PRINCIPLES, SPIDER-MAN.
I SAW THAT LITTLE STUNT
YOU PULLED ON TV. IS MARY
JANE HAPPY ABOUT THE
SANDMAN HAVING HER
ZIP CODE NOW?



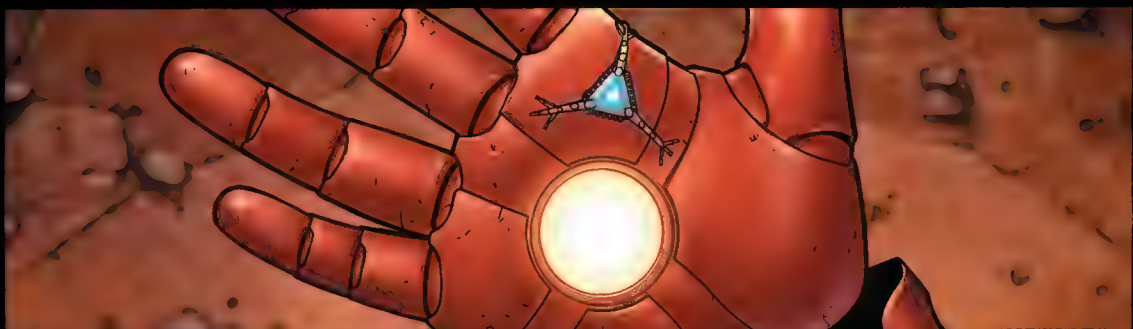
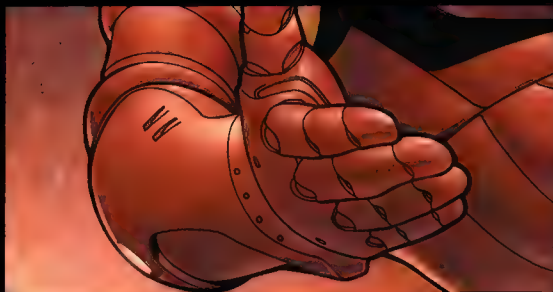
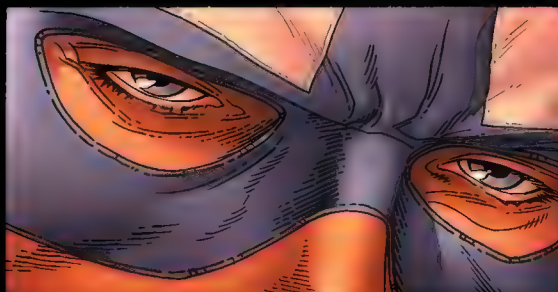
CAP, PLEASE. I KNOW YOU'RE ANGRY.
I KNOW IT'S AN ENORMOUS CHANGE
FROM THE WAY WE'VE ALWAYS WORKED,
BUT WE AREN'T LIVING IN NINETEEN
FORTY-FIVE ANYMORE.

THE PUBLIC DOESN'T
WANT MASKS AND
SECRET IDENTITIES.
THEY WANT TO FEEL
SAFE WHEN WE'RE
AROUND, AND THERE'S
NO OTHER WAY TO
WIN BACK THEIR
RESPECT.



YOU'VE KNOWN ME HALF MY ADULT LIFE,
CAP. YOU KNOW I WOULDN'T DO THIS
UNLESS I BELIEVED IN IT WITH ALL
MY HEART.

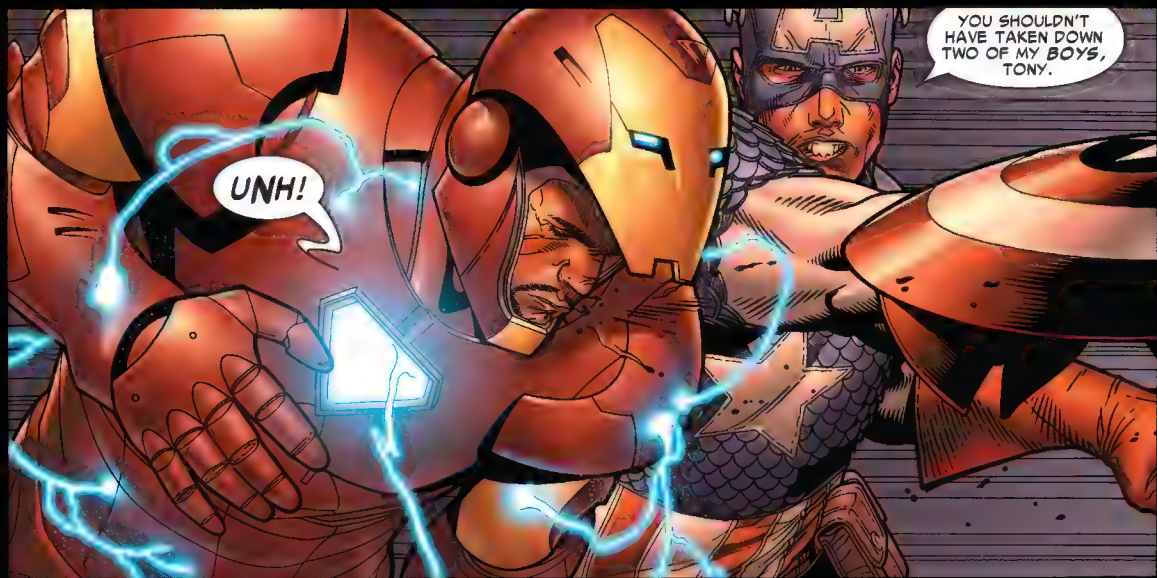
WE DON'T WANT TO FIGHT YOU.
JUST GIVE ME THE CHANCE TO TELL
YOU OUR PLANS FOR MY TWENTY-
FIRST CENTURY OVERHAUL.





IT'S A S.H.I.E.L.D.
ELECTRON-SCRAMBLER.
DEVELOPED BY NICK FURY'S
TECH TEAM IN CASE YOU
EVER WENT OVER TO
THE OTHER SIDE.

AAAGH!



UHH!

YOU SHOULDN'T
HAVE TAKEN DOWN
TWO OF MY BOYS,
TONY.

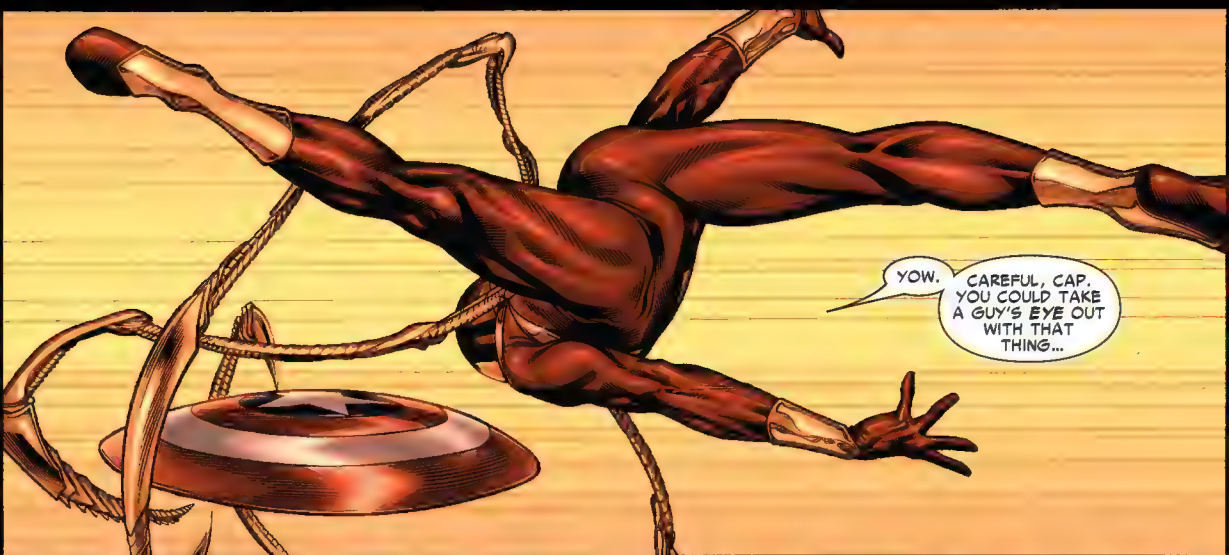


HEAD FOR THE
WATER!

GO!!



HANK, PLEASE!
WE CAN DO THIS
WITHOUT YOU
HAVING TO
GROW--!



YOW.

CAREFUL, CAP.
YOU COULD TAKE
A GUY'S EYE OUT
WITH THAT
THING...

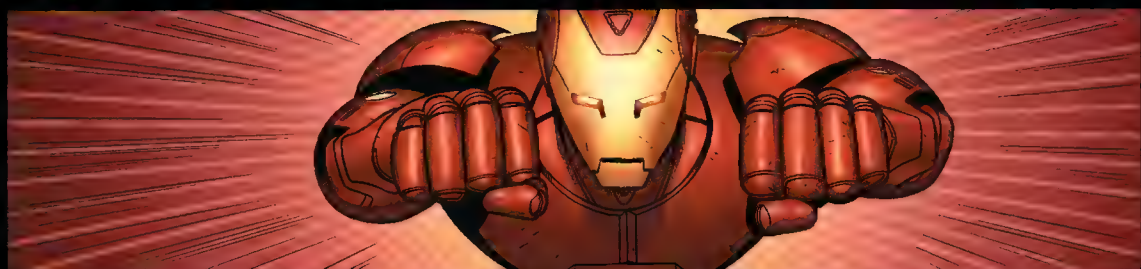


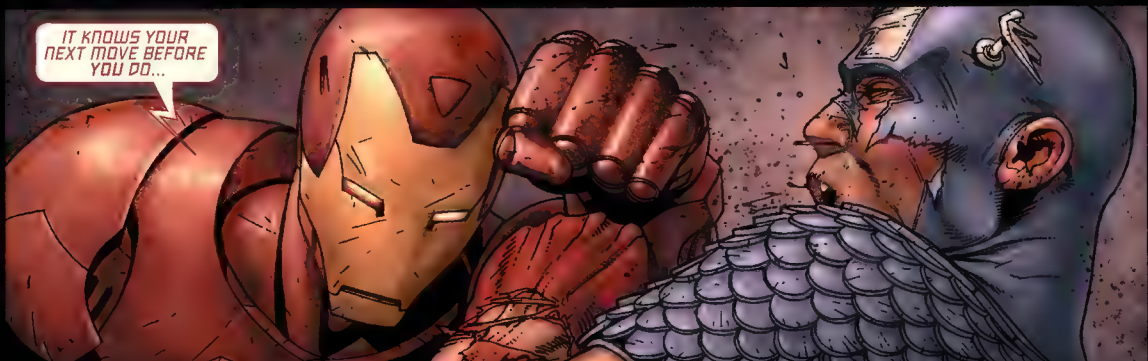
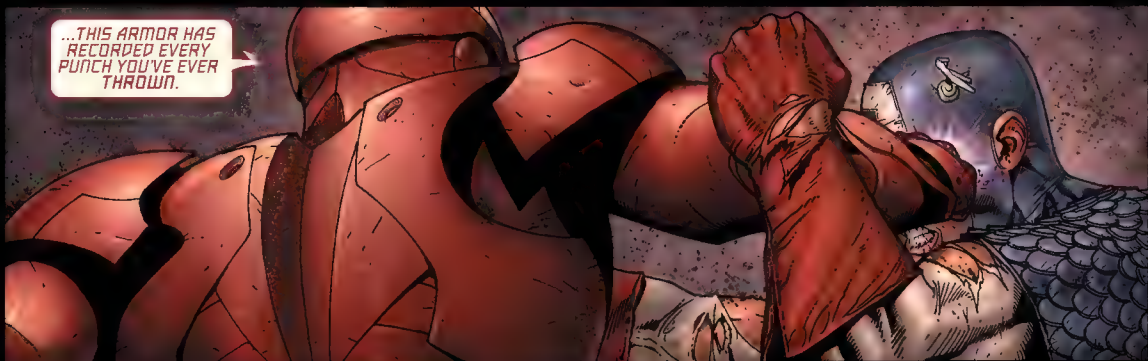
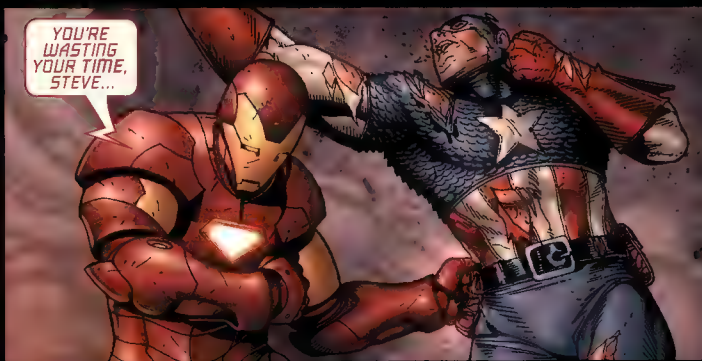
...LIKE
THESE POOR
SCHMUCKS, FOR
INSTANCE.



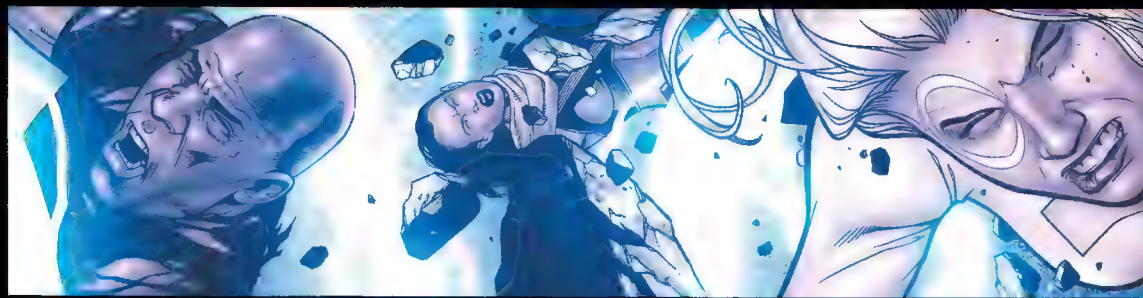
I DON'T
UNDERSTAND.
WHERE'D HE
GO?

SPIDER-MAN'S
WEARING A NEW SUIT
STARK DESIGNED,
PATRIOT: BULLET-
PROOF, GLIDE-FUNCTION
AND STEALTH-
MODE...













WHOSE SIDE...
...ARE YOU ON?

THE MARVEL UNIVERSE IS CHANGING. AFTER THE RASH ACTIONS OF FOUR YOUNG HEROES CAUSE THE DESTRUCTION OF STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT, A SUPERHUMAN REGISTRATION ACT IS PASSED BY CONGRESS, REQUIRING ALL THOSE POSSESSING PARANORMAL ABILITIES TO REGISTER WITH THE GOVERNMENT. REACTION AMONG THE SUPER HEROES IS SPLIT DOWN THE MIDDLE, WITH AN AWOL CAPTAIN AMERICA ON ONE SIDE AND A PRO-REGISTRATION IRON MAN ON THE OTHER. AS THE TWO FACTIONS MEET IN COMBAT, THE BATTLEFIELD IS SUNDERED BY A TREMENDOUS BOLT OF LIGHTNING--HERALDING THE APPEARANCE OF THE MIGHTY THOR!



CIVIL WAR

MARK MILLAR

STEVE MCNIVEN

DEXTER VINES

MORRY HOLLOWELL

A MARVEL COMICS® EVENT IN SEVEN PARTS

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4

CIVIL WAR

After Stamford, Connecticut is destroyed during a televised fight between the New Warriors and a group of dangerous villains, public sentiment turns against super heroes. Advocates call for reform, and a Superhuman Registration Act is debated, which would require all those possessing paranormal abilities to register with the government, divulge their true identities to the authorities and submit to training and sanctioning in the manner of federal agents.

One week later, the Act is passed. Any individual with paranormal powers who refuses to register is now a criminal. Some heroes, such as Iron Man, see this as a natural evolution of the role of superhumans in society and a reasonable request. Others view the Act as an assault on their civil liberties. After being called upon to hunt down heroes in defiance of the Registration Act, Captain America goes underground and forms a resistance movement.

As the two factions meet in combat at an abandoned chemical plant, the battlefield is sundered by a tremendous bolt of lightning, heralding the appearance of the mighty Thor!



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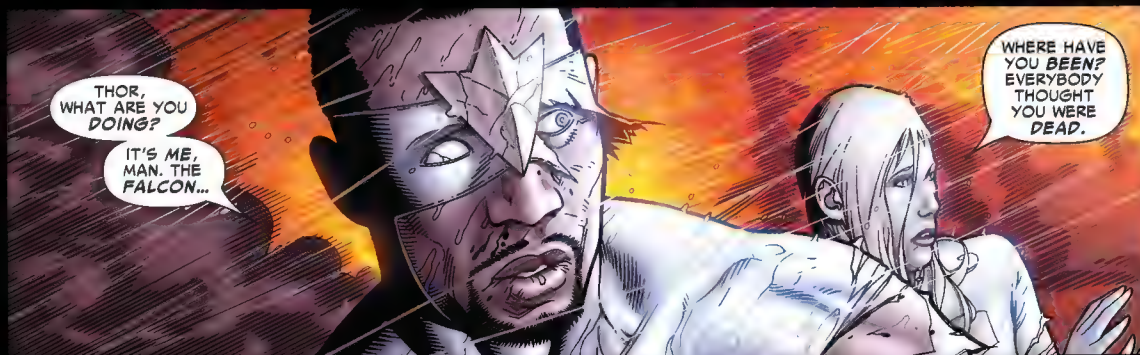
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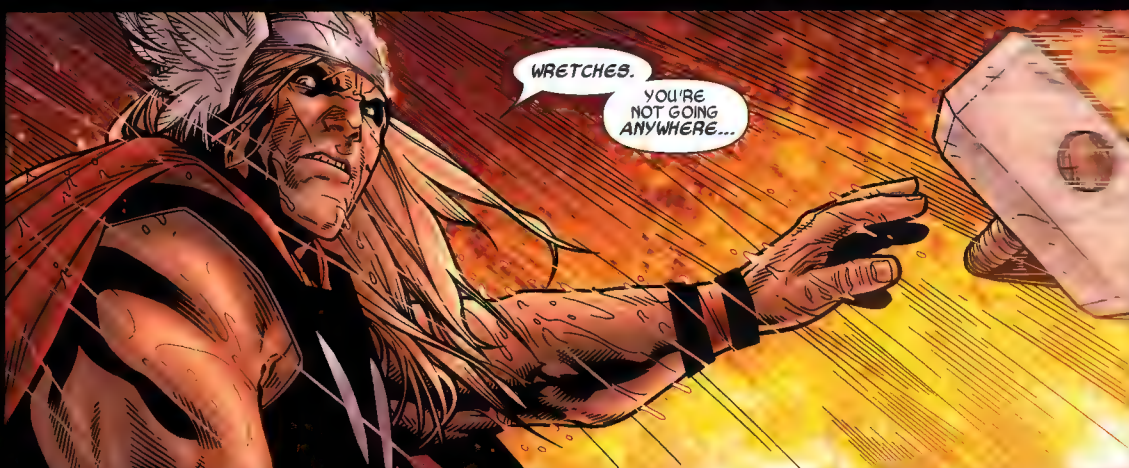
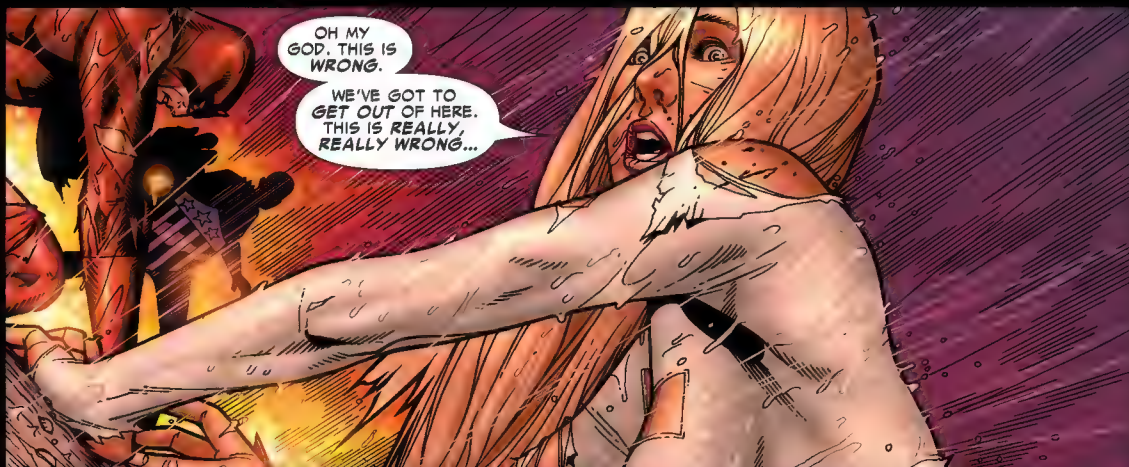
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CAP, PLEASE, DON'T
GET UP. I DON'T WANT
TO HIT YOU AGAIN. YOUR
JAW'S PRACTICALLY
HANGING OFF.
JUST SURRENDER,
AND I'LL GET YOU
MEDICAL ATTENTION
FROM THE S.H.I.E.L.D.
PEOPLE OUT THERE.



YOU REALLY
THINK I'M GOING
DOWN--
--TO SOME
PAMPERED
PUNK LIKE
YOU?



IRON MAN TO
ALL POINTS:
ACTIVATE YOUR
AUDIO-BLOCKS.

THIS IS
GOING TO
HURT...





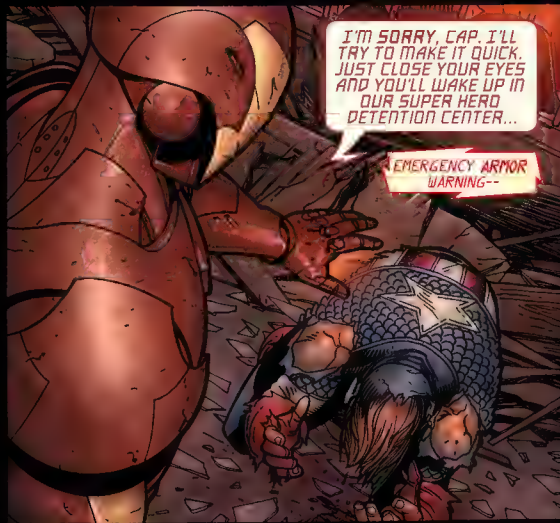
OH, LORD. THIS IS HORRIBLE. I CAN'T EVEN LOOK...

I DON'T LIKE IT EITHER, SUE, BUT AT LEAST THIS WAY THERE'S NO BROKEN BONES.

STAND DOWN, THOR. THE S.H.I.E.L.D. CLEANUP SQUAD CAN HANDLE THINGS FROM HERE.



YOU'RE A TOUGH OLD BIRD. I'LL GIVE YOU THAT. THIS FREQUENCY PUTS THE HUMAN BRAIN INTO SHUTDOWN, BUT LOOK AT YOU. YOU'RE STILL GETTING UP.



I'M SORRY, CAP. I'LL TRY TO MAKE IT QUICK. JUST CLOSE YOUR EYES AND YOU'LL WAKE UP IN OUR SUPER HERO DETENTION CENTER...

EMERGENCY ARMOR WARNING--

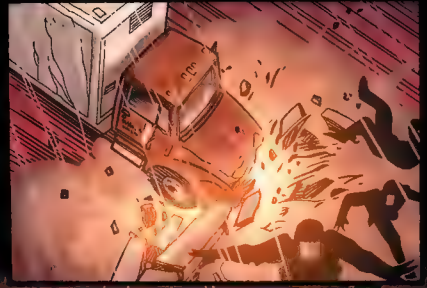
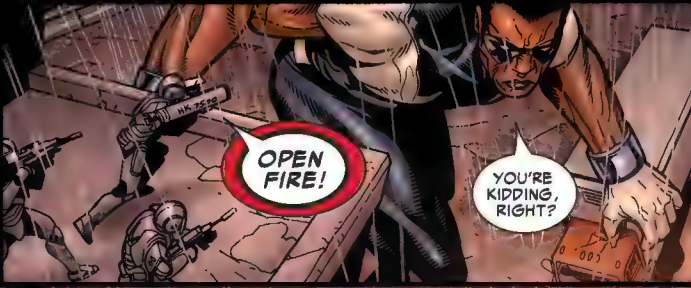


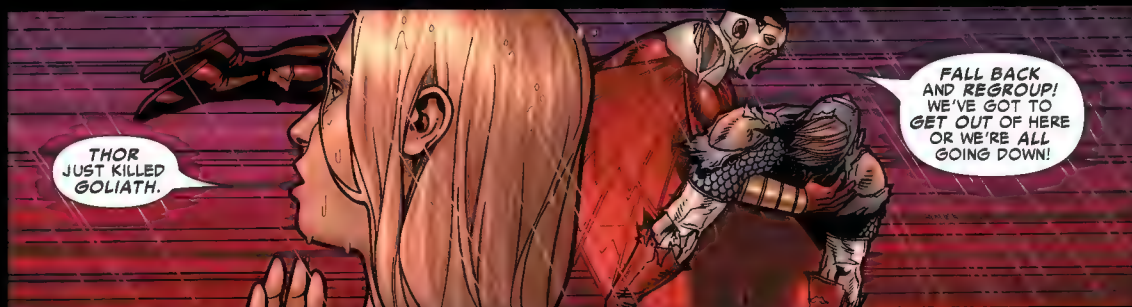
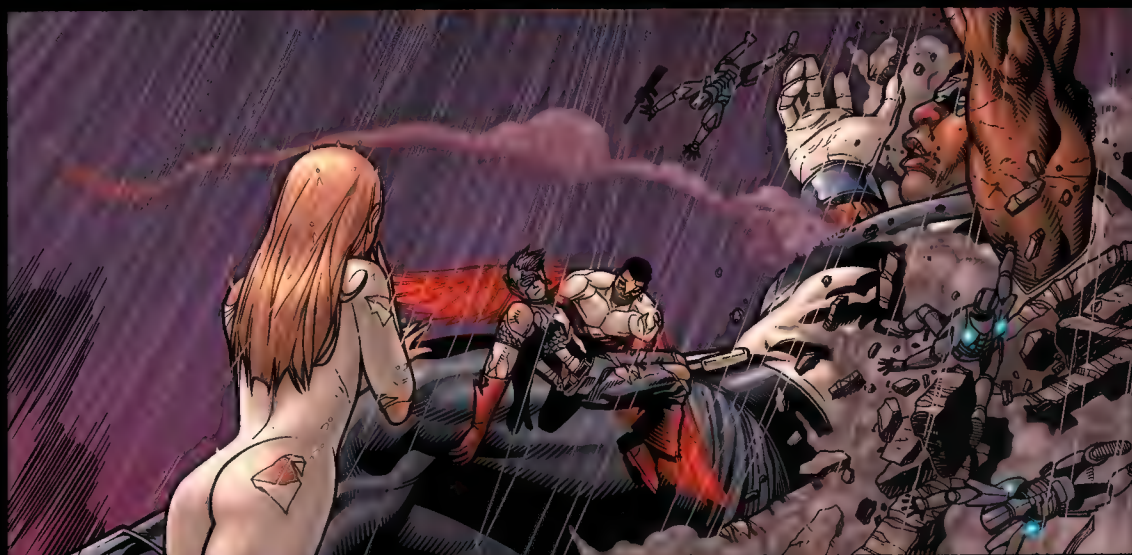
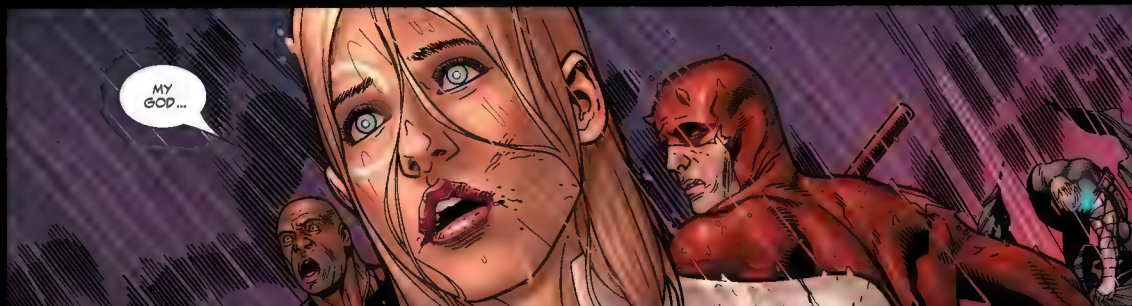
HUH?

NON-HUMAN ATTACK REGISTERED--

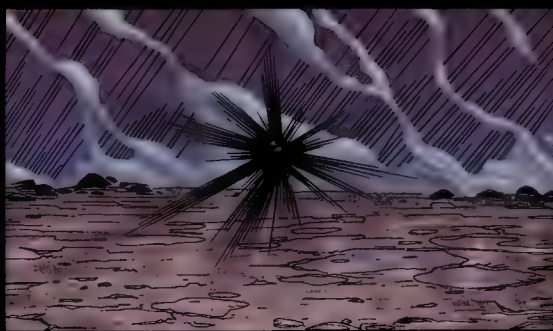












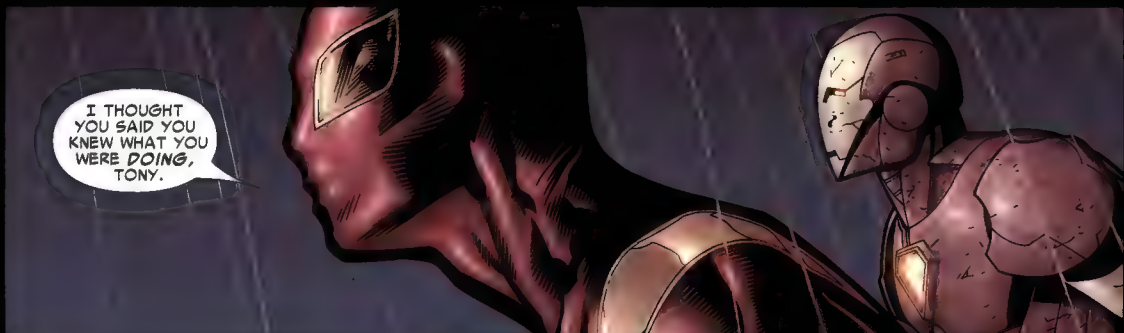
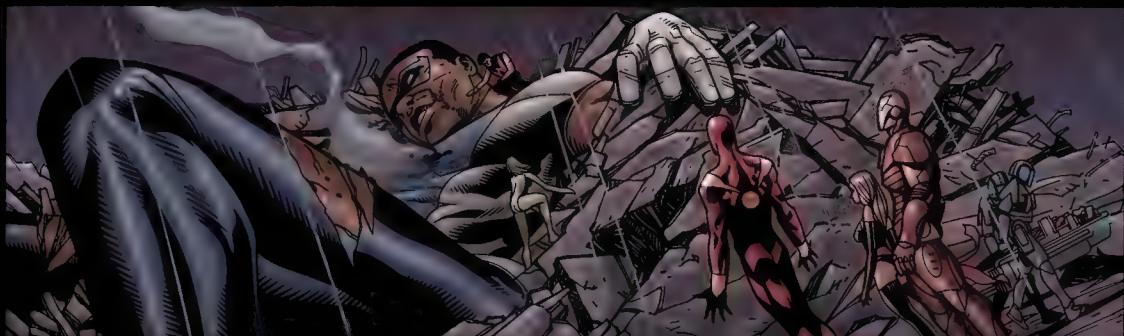


WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED, REED? I THOUGHT YOU GAVE HIM SOME KIND OF *DIRECTIVES*! YOU SAID THIS GUY WOULD BE JUST LIKE THE OLD THOR!

SUE, PLEASE. YOU'VE GOT TO BELIEVE I HAD--



DON'T EVEN SPEAK TO ME. DON'T SAY A DAMN WORD.



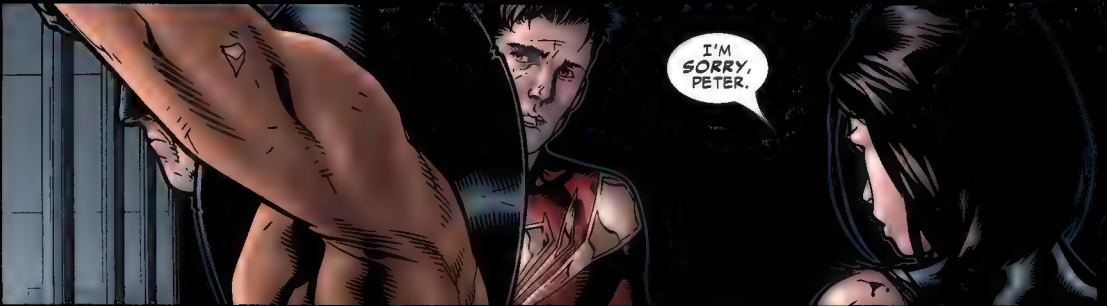
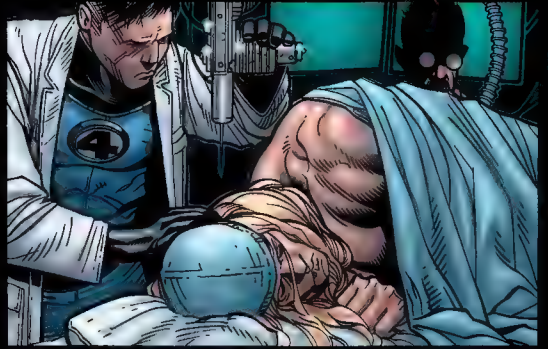
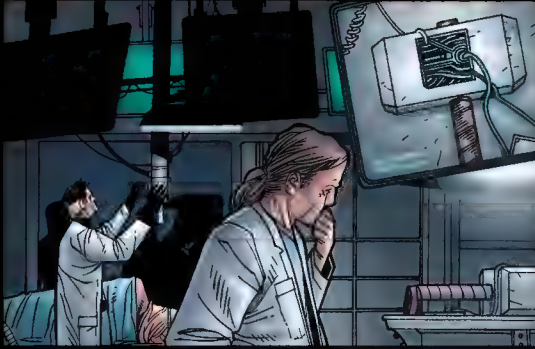
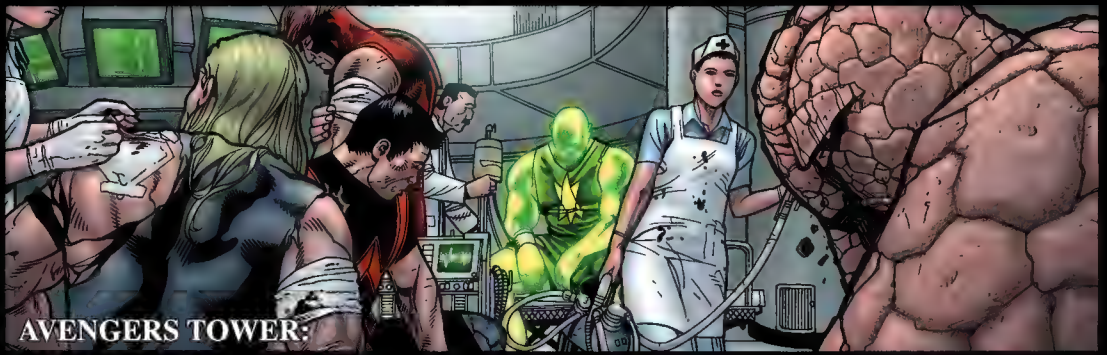
I THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU KNEW WHAT YOU WERE DOING, TONY.



I THOUGHT WE WERE DOING THIS SO NO ONE ELSE GOT HURT.



I THOUGHT WE WERE DOING THIS SO NO ONE ELSE GOT HURT.





I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE WE CLONED A GOD.

DID YOU KNOW TONY HAD BEEN HOLDING ONTO THAT STRAND OF THOR'S HAIR SINCE THE FIRST MEETING OF THE AVENGERS?

WHAT KIND OF MAN COMBS HIS FURNITURE FOR HAIR FOLLICLES AND SKIN CELLS?

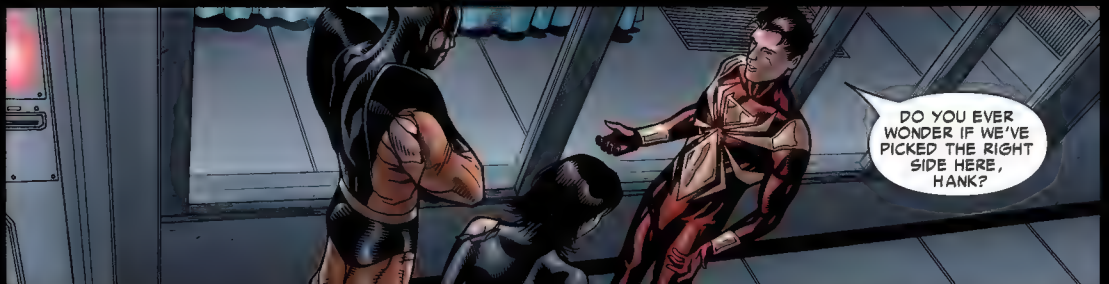
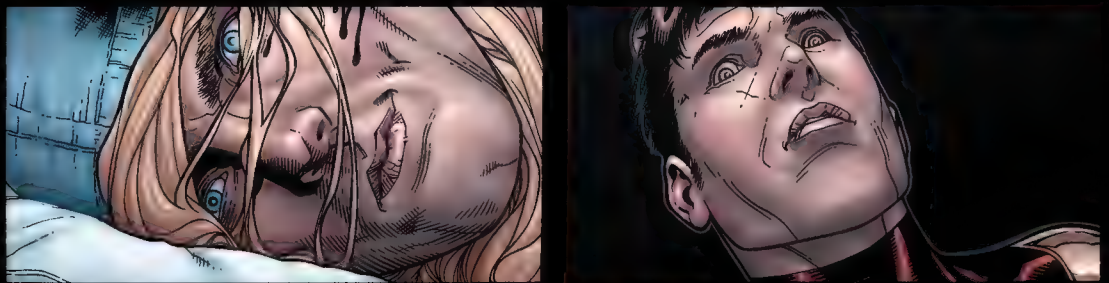


A GUY WITH A LOT OF FORESIGHT, I GUESS.



I JUST CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY OUR THOR-CLONE KILLED A MAN. IS HE MISSING A HUMAN CONSCIENCE?

DO WE NEED TO FUSE HIM WITH A DONALD BLAKE OR A JAKE OLSON TO HAVE HIM FUNCTION PROPERLY?



DO YOU EVER WONDER IF WE'VE PICKED THE RIGHT SIDE HERE, HANK?

SECRET AVENGERS HEADQUARTERS:



APPEAL FOR AMNESTY?
ARE YOU INSANE? WE JUST
PICKED UP ANOTHER TWENTY
SUPPORTERS, NIGHTHAWK.
TONY'S PEOPLE ARE
DISAPPEARING BY THE
HOUR.

SO WHAT? BILL'S DEAD
AND HALF OUR GUYS GOT
THROWN IN THIS NUMBER
FORTY-TWO COMPLEX...THIS
BIG S.H.I.E.L.D. PENITENTIARY
REED RICHARDS WAS
BUILDING...



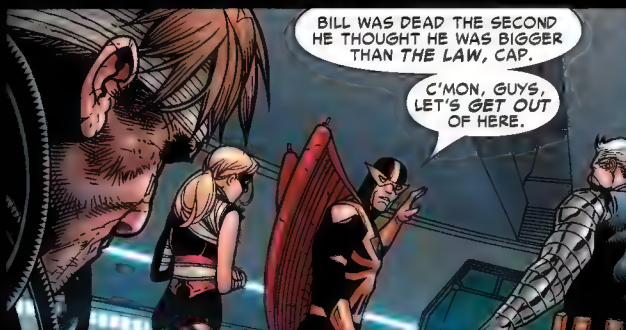
AND YOU'RE
WILLING TO LET
THEM GET AWAY
WITH THAT,
KYLE?



THE WAY I SEE IT, THEY CAN
DO ANYTHING THEY LIKE NOW THAT
THEY GOT THOR ON-SIDE.

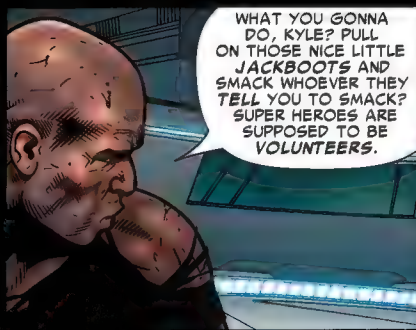
THAT WASN'T THOR.
THAT WAS JUST ONE OF
THOSE FRANKENSTEIN'S
MONSTERS THEY'VE BEEN
GROWING FOR THEIR
SUPER HERO ARMY. YOU
REALLY THINK YOU WOULD
HAVE MURDERED BILL
FOSTER?

HOLD STILL
SO JANE AND I
CAN FINISH,
HUH?



BILL WAS DEAD THE SECOND HE THOUGHT HE WAS BIGGER THAN THE LAW, CAP.

C'MON, GUYS, LET'S GET OUT OF HERE.



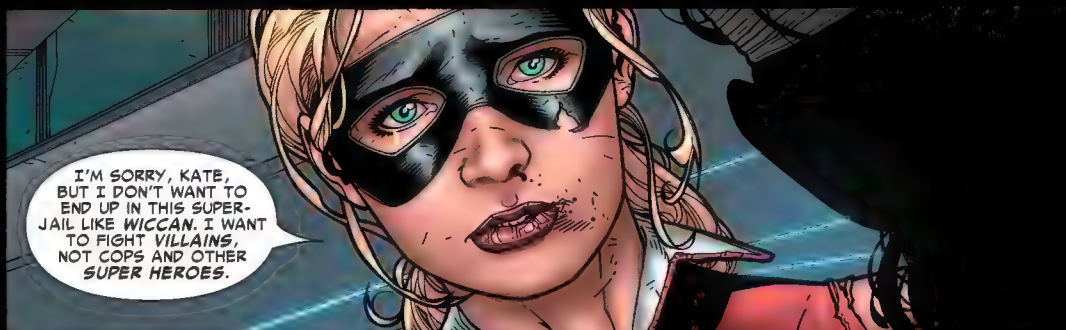
WHAT YOU GONNA DO, KYLE? PULL ON THOSE NICE LITTLE JACKBOOTS AND SMACK WHOEVER THEY TELL YOU TO SMACK? SUPER HEROES ARE SUPPOSED TO BE VOLUNTEERS.



NO, WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE THE GOOD GUYS, CAGE.



CASSIE?

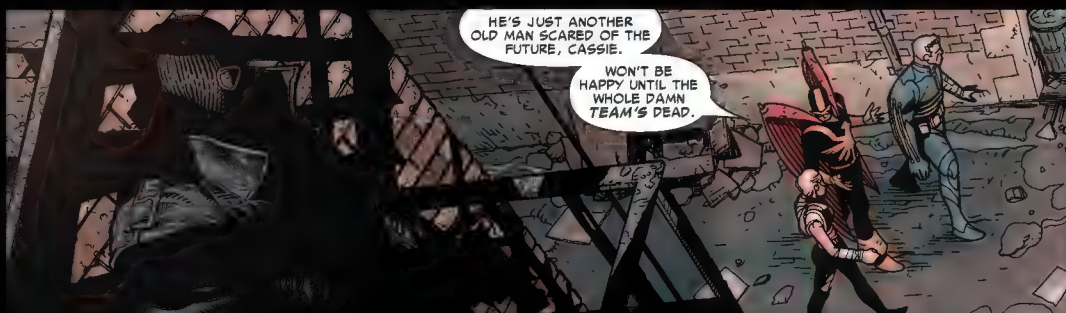


I'M SORRY, KATE, BUT I DON'T WANT TO END UP IN THIS SUPER-JAIL LIKE WICCAN. I WANT TO FIGHT VILLAINS, NOT COPS AND OTHER SUPER HEROES.



LET THEM GO IF THEIR FREEDOM MEANS SO LITTLE TO THEM.

IT'S TIME WE DITCHED THIS BASE FOR A NEW ONE ANYWAY.



HE'S JUST ANOTHER OLD MAN SCARED OF THE FUTURE, CASSIE.

WON'T BE HAPPY UNTIL THE WHOLE DAMN TEAM'S DEAD.



GOLIATH'S FUNERAL, NEW JERSEY:



HELL OF A SEND-OFF, GIVEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES.

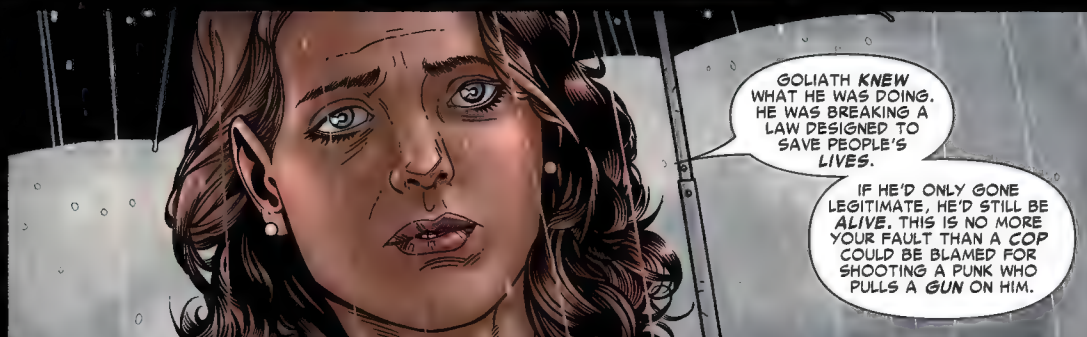
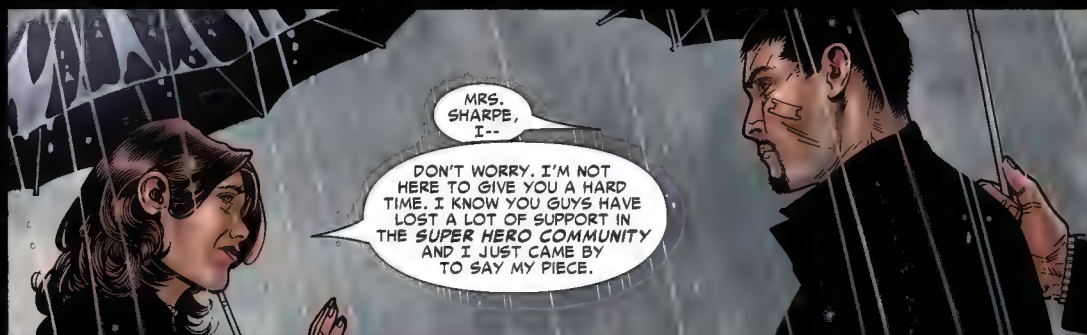


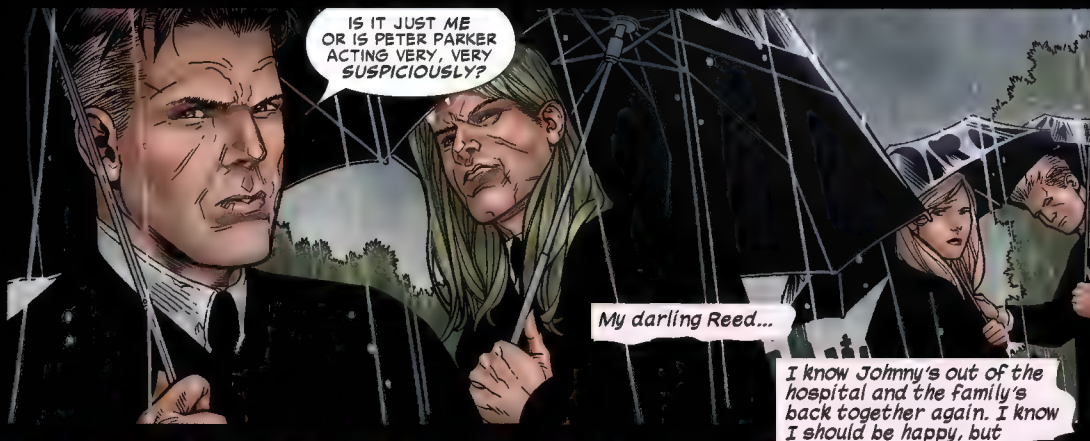
GUY WAS A SUPER HERO. HAPPY, AND HE SAVED A LOT OF LIVES OVER THE YEARS. THAT'S SOMETHING WE CAN'T FORGET NO MATTER HOW BAD THIS GETS.

JUST A SHAME THEY COULDN'T SHRINK HIM DOWN. I WONDER HOW MUCH HIS FAMILY HAD TO SHELL OUT FOR THESE THIRTY-EIGHT BURIAL PLOTS.

NOTHING. I TOOK CARE OF ALL THE EXPENSES. IT WAS THE LEAST I COULD DO...



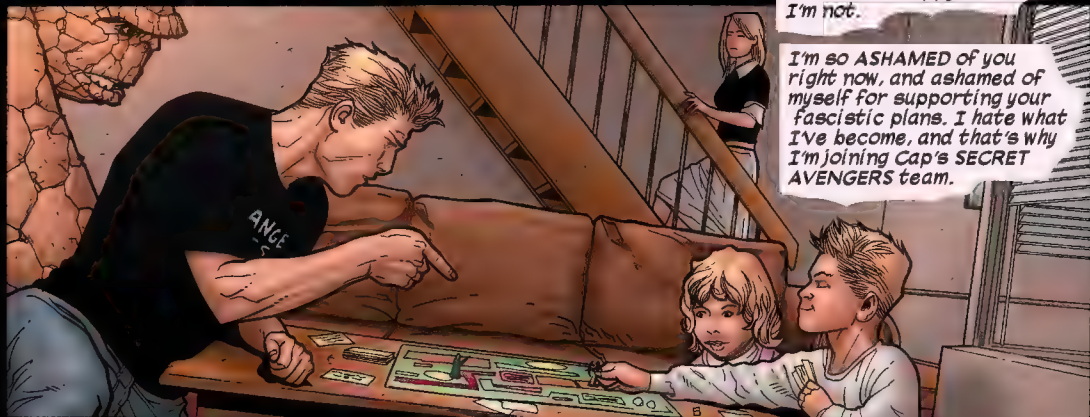




IS IT JUST ME
OR IS PETER PARKER
ACTING VERY, VERY
SUSPICIOUSLY?

My darling Reed...

I know Johnny's out of the
hospital and the family's
back together again. I know
I should be happy, but
I'm not.



I'm so ASHAMED of you
right now, and ashamed of
myself for supporting your
fascistic plans. I hate what
I've become, and that's why
I'm joining Cap's SECRET
AVENGERS team.



Please understand:
This is not another
cry for attention.
This is not me trying
to distract you from
your all-important
work.

This is because our hands are soaked in Bill
Foster's BLOOD and you're so blinded by your
graphs and social projections that you can't
even SEE it.



Johnny and I will be working UNDERGROUND from now on, and that's obviously no place for Franklin and Valeria.

That's why I've left them in your care and beg you to give them the time you have so often DENIED them in the past.



I also didn't want your last memory of me to be tainted with all the blazing fights we've had in recent weeks.

Reed

Hence the oily-fish dinner (good brain-food), the bottle of your favorite claret (an excellent antioxidant) and making love one final time (good for the immune system).



I hope I don't look like a coward for leaving this way. I hope you don't think I'm a bad wife or, worse still, a bad mother.

I'm doing this for the best of reasons and pray that your genius can RESOLVE this thing before one side ends up slaughtering the other.



I love you, Reed. More than anything in the world.

Please fix this.

Susan
XXX

AVENGERS TOWER:

SO HOW MANY
OF OUR GUYS ARE
WE LOSING?

MORE THAN WE
CAN AFFORD. A COUPLE
OF CAP'S PEOPLE ARE
TALKING ABOUT COMING
OVER, BUT THE BALANCE
HAS DEFINITELY TIPPED IN
THEIR FAVOR AFTER THIS.

MAYBE WE COULD JUST BRING FORWARD THIS
FIFTY STATE INITIATIVE THING. WOULDN'T
THESE NEW HEROES BE ABLE TO GET
THINGS UNDER CONTROL AGAIN?

YEAH, BUT THEY'RE STILL AT
LEAST A MONTH AWAY FROM BEING
FINISHED. WE NEED TO MOVE FAST AND
WE NEED PEOPLE WITH EXPERIENCE IN
SUPERHUMAN COMBAT...

YOU MEAN THIS LATEST
ITERATION OF THE
THUNDERBOLTS YOU'VE
ASSEMBLED?

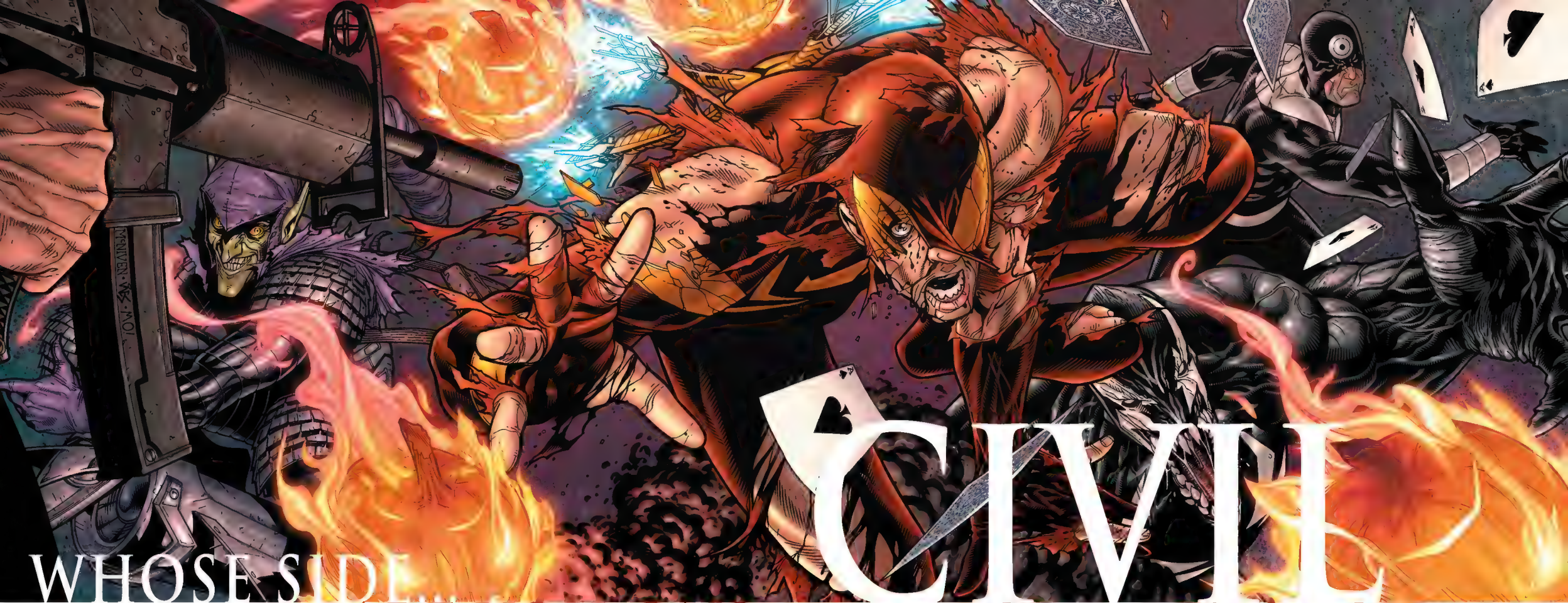
AFTER WHAT JUST WENT DOWN,
IT'S THE ONLY COURSE OF ACTION
WE'VE GOT LEFT, JAN.

I SHOULD STRESS THAT THEIR
INVOLVEMENT IS **STRICTLY TEMPORARY**.
THIS IS JUST TO CAPTURE CAP'S TEAM,
AND THEY'LL ALL GO BACK TO JAIL
IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARDS.

EACH AND EVERY ONE OF
THEM WILL BE **CHIPPED AND
TAGGED**, THEIR EVERY
MOVEMENT MONITORED BY
**MICROSCOPIC
NANOBOTS**.

WELL, THEY
DON'T EXACTLY
LOOK **THRILLED**
ABOUT THE PROSPECT
OF TEAMING UP WITH
THE **AVENGERS**...

THAT'S
BECAUSE
THEY'RE
NOT NICE
PEOPLE.



WHOSE SIDE
...ARE YOU ON?

THE MARVEL UNIVERSE IS CHANGING. AFTER THE RASH ACTIONS OF FOUR YOUNG HEROES CAUSE THE DESTRUCTION OF STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT, A SUPERHUMAN REGISTRATION ACT IS PASSED BY CONGRESS, REQUIRING ALL THOSE POSSESSING PARANORMAL ABILITIES TO REGISTER WITH THE GOVERNMENT. REACTION AMONG THE SUPER HEROES IS SPLIT DOWN THE MIDDLE, WITH AN AWOL CAPTAIN AMERICA ON ONE SIDE AND A PRO-REGISTRATION IRON MAN ON THE OTHER. AFTER A BRUTAL BATTLE, MANY HEROES ARE LEFT INJURED, DISCOURAGED AND QUESTIONING WHERE THEY STAND. IN AN EFFORT TO WIN OUT OVER THE ANTI-REGISTRATION FORCES, IRON MAN REVEALS THE LATEST ELEMENT OF HIS PLAN: A NEW, MORE BRUTAL TEAM OF THUNDERBOLTS!

MARK MILLAR

STEVE MCNIVEN

DEXTER VINES

MORRY HOLLOWELL

CIVIL WAR

A MARVEL COMICS® EVENT IN SEVEN PARTS

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5

CIVIL WAR

A Superhuman Registration Act has been passed which requires all people possessing paranormal abilities to register with the government. Those who do not register are considered criminals. Some heroes, such as Iron Man, see this as a natural evolution of the role of superhumans in society and a reasonable request. Others view the Act as an assault on their civil liberties. After being called upon to hunt down fellow heroes in defiance of the Registration Act, Captain America goes underground and forms a resistance movement.

After a brutal battle, Bill Foster--the anti-registration hero known as Goliath--has been killed. Other members of Captain America's resistance have been captured and brought to the pro-registration faction's holding facility in the Negative Zone. Both sides have retreated in order to regroup and plan their next move.

Many heroes have been left injured, discouraged and questioning where they stand. While some of Captain America's allies have joined with Tony Stark, Spider-Man is beginning to question his loyalty to Iron Man--and the Invisible Woman and the Human Torch have left the pro-registration side and gone in search of Cap's underground, officially breaking up the Fantastic Four.



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NEW YORK
CITY:

EASY,
SIS! I GOT
YOU!

CONTROL, THIS IS
S.H.I.E.L.D. TEAM FOUR.
INVISIBLE WOMAN IS NOW
BEING AIDED BY THE
HUMAN TORCH.





ALL UNITS STAY
IN PURSUIT! THEY'RE
HEADING DOWNTOWN
PAST EAST 40TH
AND STRAIGHT INTO
TEAMS NINE AND
ELEVEN!



SUE!
MAKE US
INVISIBLE!
NOW!



HOLY
CRAP!



IT HAS TO BE SAID:
FLOODING THE STREETS
WITH S.H.I.E.L.D. AGENTS
HAS MADE AN ENORMOUS
IMPACT ON CRIMINAL
ACTIVITY.

OUR BOYS KEEP
THIS UP AND WE
MIGHT NOT EVEN
NEED THOSE NEW
THUNDERBOLTS.

S.H.I.E.L.D. HELICARRIER

COMMANDER HILL
WANTS A SIT-REP ON
STORM AND RICHARDS,
S.H.I.E.L.D. TEAM NINE.
YOU NAILED THESE
CLOWNS YET?



TWO
MINUTES,
CONTROL.

SWITCHING
TO INFRA-
RED...

STARK TOWER:

NIGHTHAWK!
STATURE! CAN I JUST
SAY HOW GRATEFUL WE ARE
THAT YOU GUYS ARE JOINING
THE PRO-REGISTRATION
CAMP?

COULDN'T HAVE
BEEN EASY JUST
WALKING AWAY FROM
CAPTAIN AMERICA
LIKE THAT.

ACTUALLY, IT WAS
PROBABLY THE TOUGHEST
DECISION I'VE EVER HAD
TO MAKE, MISTER HOGAN.

I KNOW WHAT
YOU MEAN. YOUR
HEAD SAYS TONY
STARK, BUT YOUR
HEART WANTS THINGS
JUST THE WAY
THEY'VE ALWAYS
BEEN.

UNFORTUNATELY,
WE'RE LIVING IN A
DIFFERENT WORLD
NOW, SIR. I GUESS
IT TOOK GOLIATH
TO MAKE ME
REALIZE THAT.

WHAT ABOUT YOU, CASSIE? YOU SURE YOU'RE READY
TO JUST WALK AWAY FROM ALL THE OTHER YOUNG AVENGERS?
THIS IS A HUGE STEP YOU'RE TAKING HERE...

PEOPLE WANT US TO BE
PROPERLY TRAINED, MISTER
HOGAN. IT'S NOT THE NINETEEN-
FORTIES ANYMORE. ALL I WANT
IS TO DO MY JOB TO THE
BEST OF MY ABILITIES.

GREAT. WELL, I'LL GET YOU
DOWNSTAIRS FOR BACKGROUND
CHECKS IN A SECOND OR TWO,
BUT TONY STARK SAID HE
WANTED TO WELCOME YOU
GUYS PERSONALLY.

NOT LIKE
THE BIG GUY
TO KEEP PEOPLE
WAITING...

UPSTAIRS:

PETER, YOU'RE ACTING LIKE A LUNATIC. WHY CAN'T WE JUST SIT DOWN AND DISCUSS THIS LIKE GROWN-UPS?

BECAUSE THERE'S NOTHING TO DISCUSS, TONY. I'M LEAVING THE AVENGERS.

I DON'T HAVE A PROBLEM WITH WORKING FOR S.H.I.E.L.D., BUT LOCKING HEROES IN THE NEGATIVE ZONE? THE CYBORG KILLING BILL FOSTER LIKE THAT?

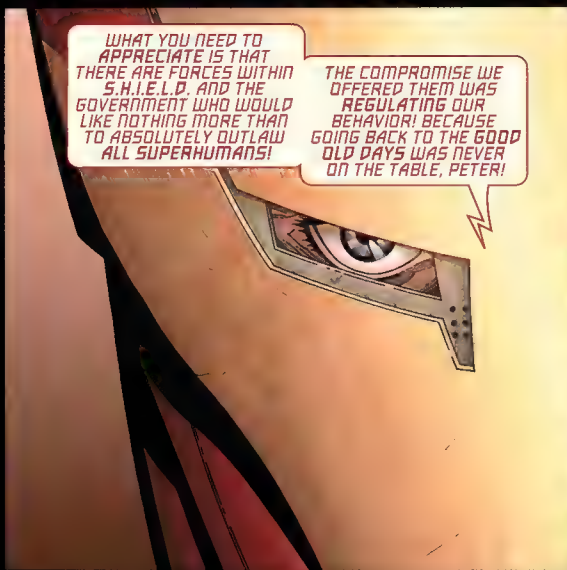
C'MON, MAN! YOU'RE IN OVER YOUR HEAD!

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? EVEN THOUGH THOR REACTED LIKE A POLICE OFFICER WOULD, DON'T FORGET THAT BILL FOSTER WAS A FRIEND OF MINE.

YOU REALLY THINK WE'RE GOING TO LET SOMETHING LIKE THAT HAPPEN AGAIN?

WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST WE DO WITH THE UNREGISTERED SUPER-PEOPLE? LOCK THEM UP WITH REGULAR PRISONERS?

THIS IS ONLY A TEMPORARY MEASURE, PETER. LOCK THEM UP IN RYKERS AND THEY'LL BE OUT AGAIN IN FIVE MINUTES.

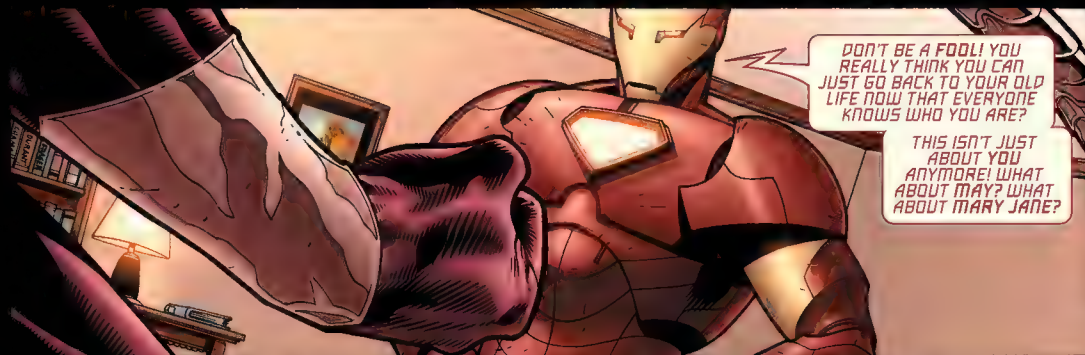


WHAT YOU NEED TO APPRECIATE IS THAT THERE ARE FORCES WITHIN S.H.I.E.L.D. AND THE GOVERNMENT WHO WOULD LIKE NOTHING MORE THAN TO ABSOLUTELY OUTLAW ALL SUPERHUMANS!

THE COMPROMISE WE OFFERED THEM WAS REGULATING OUR BEHAVIOR! BECAUSE GOING BACK TO THE GOOD OLD DAYS WAS NEVER ON THE TABLE, PETER!



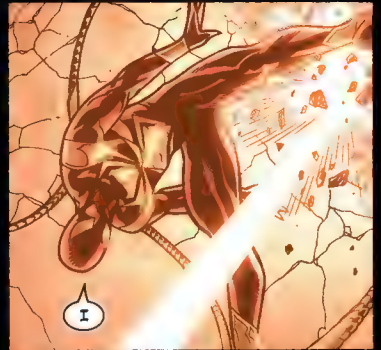
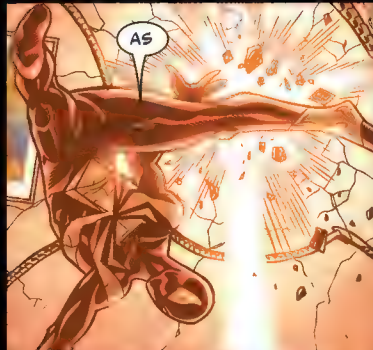
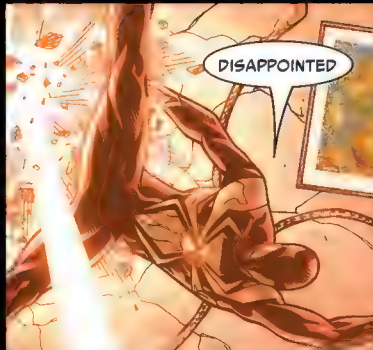
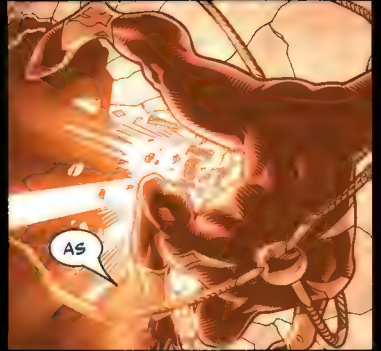
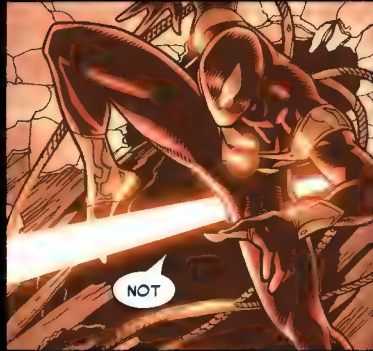
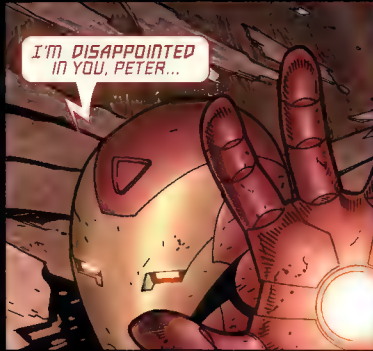
GET OUT OF MY WAY...

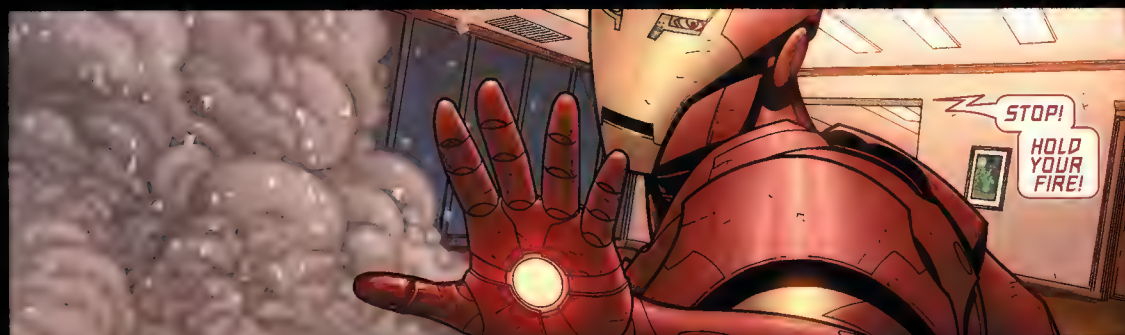


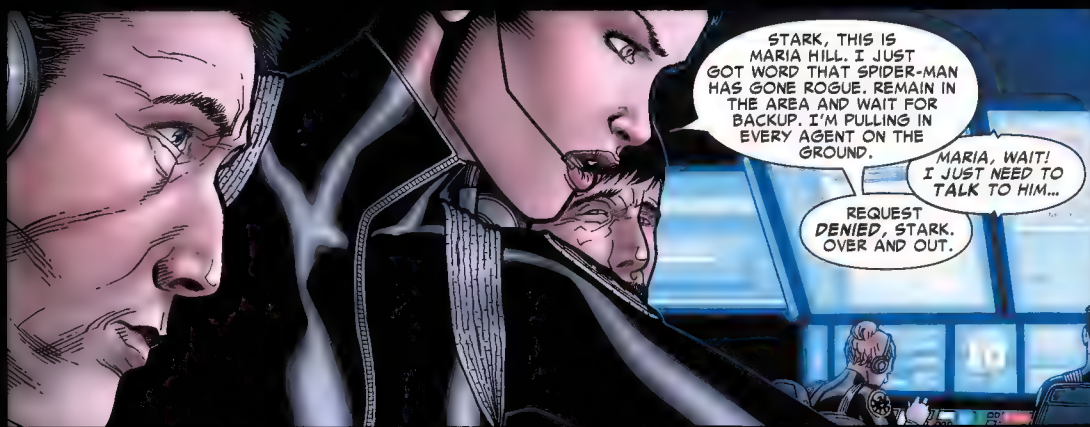
DON'T BE A FOOL! YOU REALLY THINK YOU CAN JUST GO BACK TO YOUR OLD LIFE NOW THAT EVERYONE KNOWS WHO YOU ARE?

THIS ISN'T JUST ABOUT YOU ANYMORE! WHAT ABOUT MAY? WHAT ABOUT MARY JANE?









STARK, THIS IS MARIA HILL. I JUST GOT WORD THAT SPIDER-MAN HAS GONE ROGUE. REMAIN IN THE AREA AND WAIT FOR BACKUP. I'M PULLING IN EVERY AGENT ON THE GROUND.

MARIA, WAIT! I JUST NEED TO TALK TO HIM...

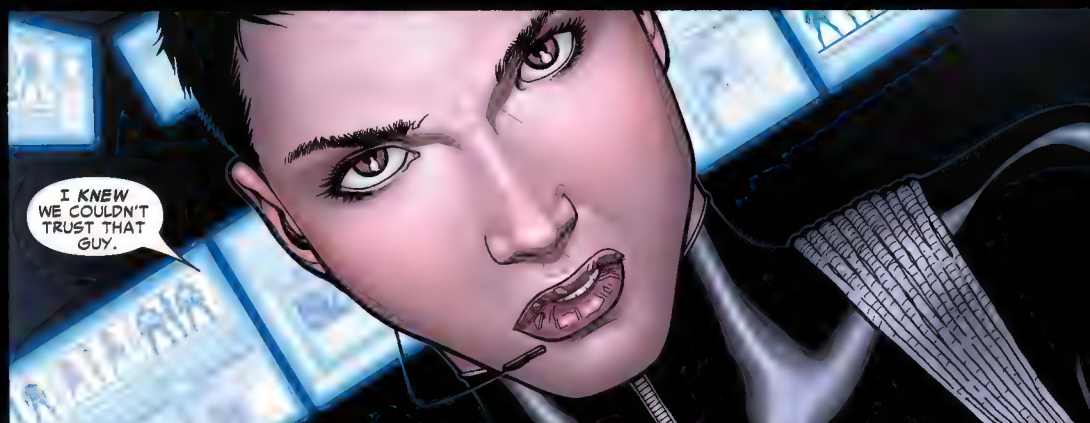
REQUEST DENIED, STARK. OVER AND OUT.



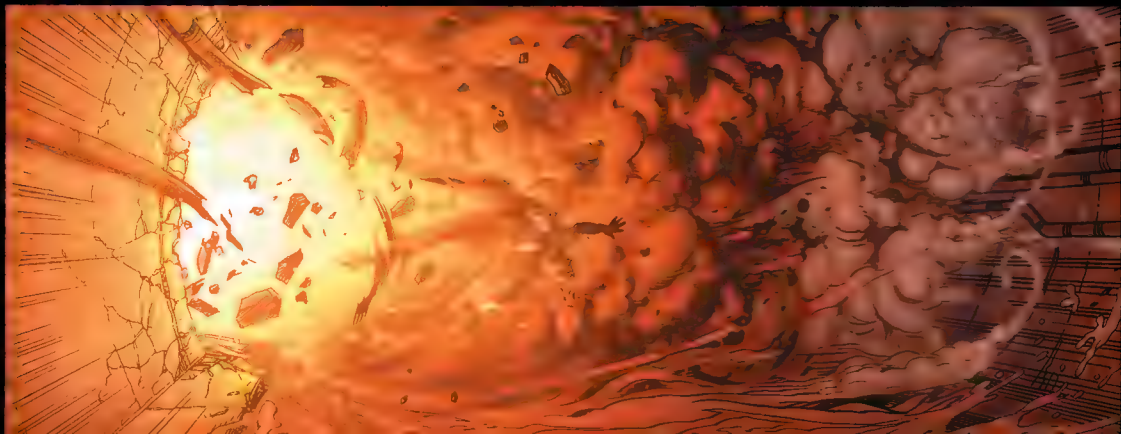
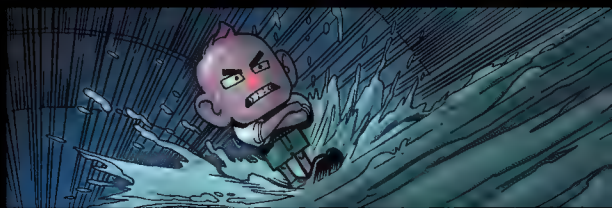
T-BOLTS DIVISION, I WANT FOURTEEN OPERATIVES ACTIVATED ON A SIXTY MINUTE TRIAL! I KNOW WE WERE SAVING THEM FOR THE FINAL BATTLE, BUT SITUATION IS CRITICAL!

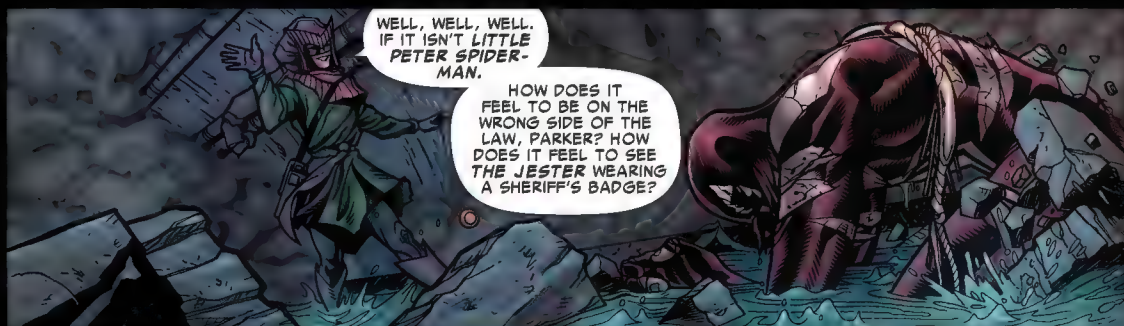
INVISIBLE MODE ESSENTIAL AT ALL TIMES! OPERATION THUNDERBOLTS IS STILL TOP SECRET!

WHATEVER YOU SAY, COMMANDER HILL.



I KNEW WE COULDN'T TRUST THAT GUY.

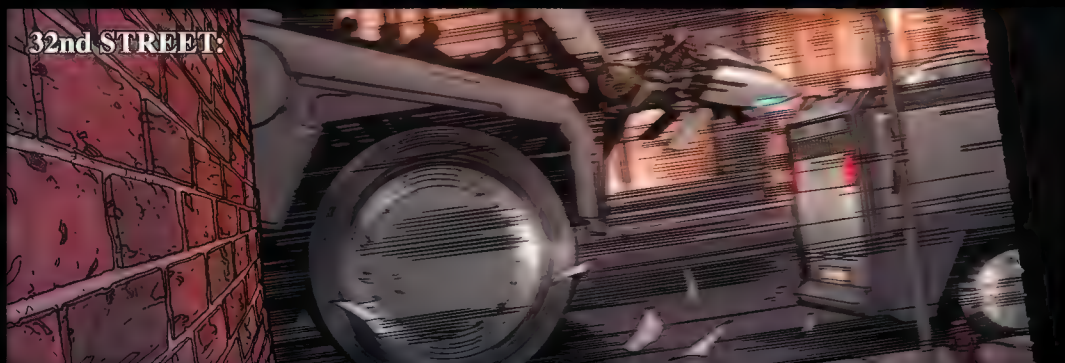








32nd STREET:



YOU THINK
THEY SAW
US?

EVEN IF THEY DID, WHAT'S
THERE TO SEE? WE'RE NOT
THE HUMAN TORCH AND THE
INVISIBLE WOMAN ANYMORE.
WE'RE MR. AND MRS. RYAN
LANDAU AND WE'RE OUT
FOR A MIDNIGHT
STROLL.



I'M STILL ANNOYED NICK FURY
COULDN'T FIND US ANY BROTHER
AND SISTER IDENTITIES. PRETENDING
WE'RE A MARRIED COUPLE IS THE
CREEPIEST THING I'VE
EVER DONE.

HOW DO YOU THINK I
FEEL, SIS? YOU LOOK
LIKE MY LAST DATE'S
GRANDMOTHER...



STILL, IT LETS US GET OUT
THERE TO HELP PEOPLE, AND
THAT'S WHAT'S IMPORTANT,
RIGHT?

CAPTAIN AMERICA'S NEW H.Q.:

TAKE IT EASY,
GUYS. IT'S ONLY
JOHNNY AND SUE
BACK FROM A
MISSION.

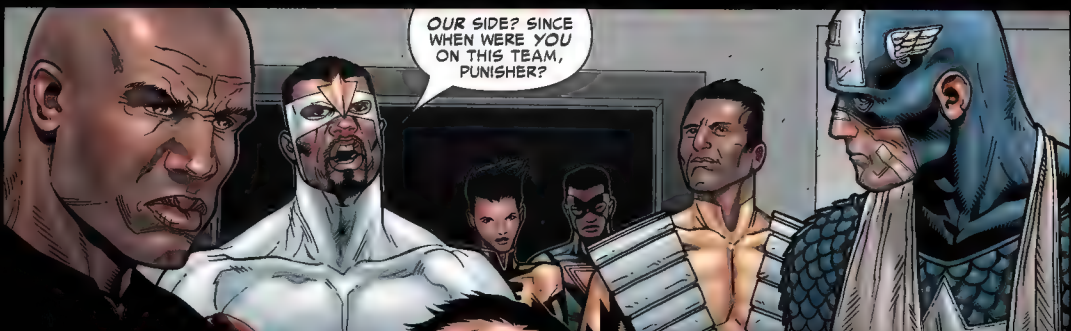
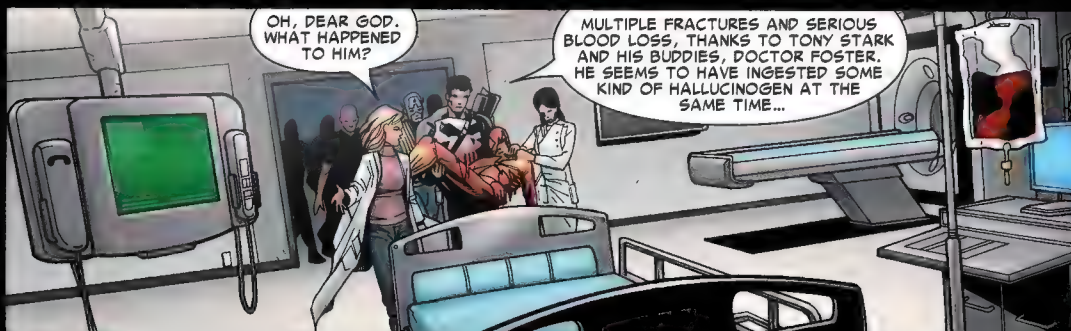
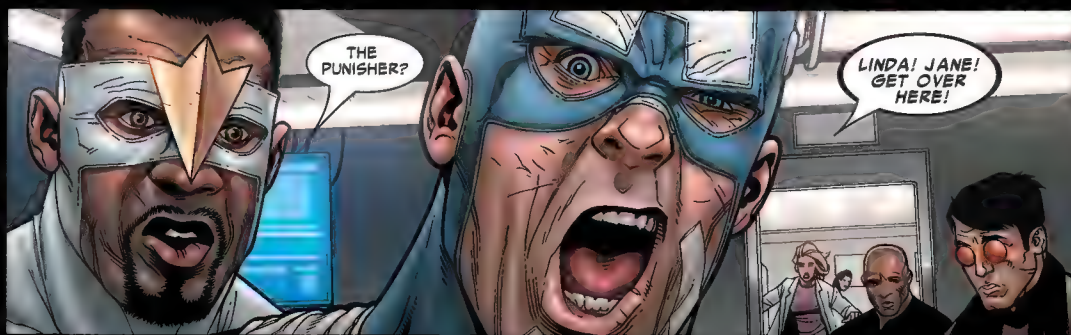


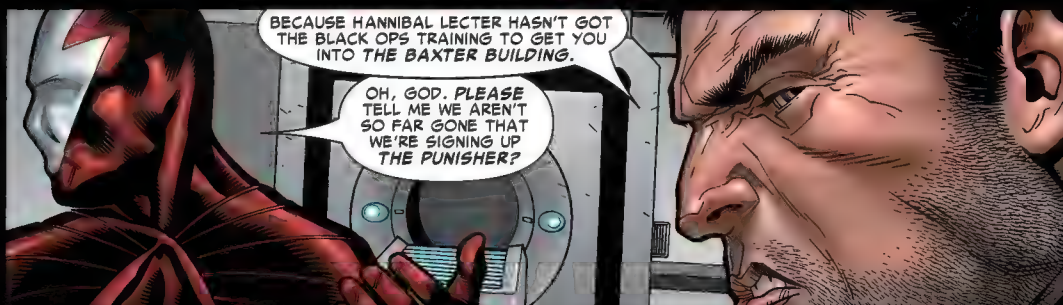
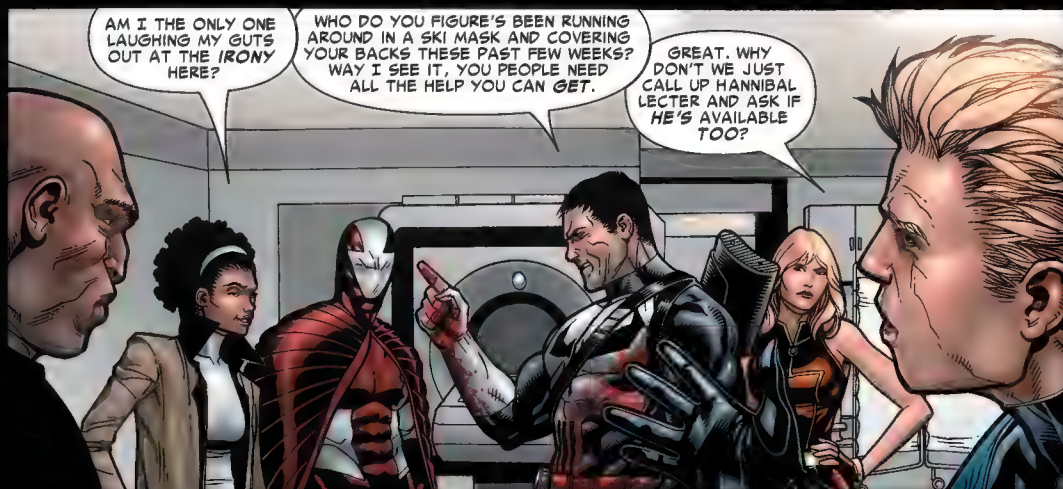


GET ME A
MEDIC!

NOW!







HELL'S KITCHEN:

THIS IS HORRIBLE.

THE PUBLIC'S BEHIND US,
THE GOVERNMENT'S
BEHIND US. CRIME IS AT
AN ALL-TIME LOW. WHY
ARE OUR OWN PEOPLE
THE ONLY ONES
CAUSING PROBLEMS,
JENNIFER?

SOMETIMES I WISH WE'D NEVER GOTTEN
INVOLVED. DO YOU EVER STOP TO THINK
HOW MUCH EASIER THINGS WOULD BE IF
WE HADN'T SPLICED THOR'S DNA WITH
HANK PYM'S CYBER-TECH?

IF WE DIDN'T HAVE
THIS BIG FINAL BATTLE
PLANNED WITH ALL THOSE
THUNDERBOLT
LUNATICS?

HANK WOULDN'T BE DOPED-UP
ON ANTI-DEPRESSANTS AND
MY DARLING SUE WOULD NEVER
HAVE LEFT...

MAYBE NOT. BUT
PUBLIC OPINION WOULD
HAVE FORCED S.H.I.E.L.D.
TO BRING DOWN EVERY
SUPER HERO IN AMERICA.

PEOPLE WERE
SICK OF SIXTEEN-YEAR-
OLD KIDS BLOWING
UP BUILDINGS,
REED.

YOU GUYS
GAVE US ALL A
FUTURE.



RYKER'S ISLAND PENITENTIARY:



YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND WHY WE'RE DOING THIS, DAREDEVIL. WE DON'T TAKE ANY PLEASURE IN HUNTING DOWN OUR FRIENDS.

WE'RE BACKING THESE REFORMS BECAUSE THE ONLY OTHER OPTION IS A COMPLETE BAN ON ALL SUPER HEROES. AND NOBODY WANTS THAT TO HAPPEN, RIGHT?

GATEWAY IS ACTIVE! PROCEEDING THROUGH!



OUR BIG IDEA IS FIFTY SUPER-TEAMS SPREAD OVER ALL FIFTY STATES, EACH ONE LICENSED AND ACCOUNTABLE TO THE TAXPAYER.

IT'S THE NEXT STAGE IN SUPERHUMAN EVOLUTION: A FEDERAL FORCE FROM COAST-TO-COAST.



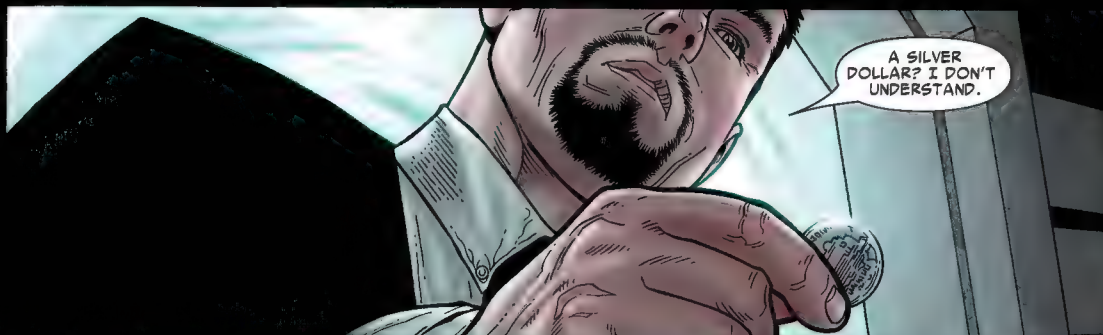
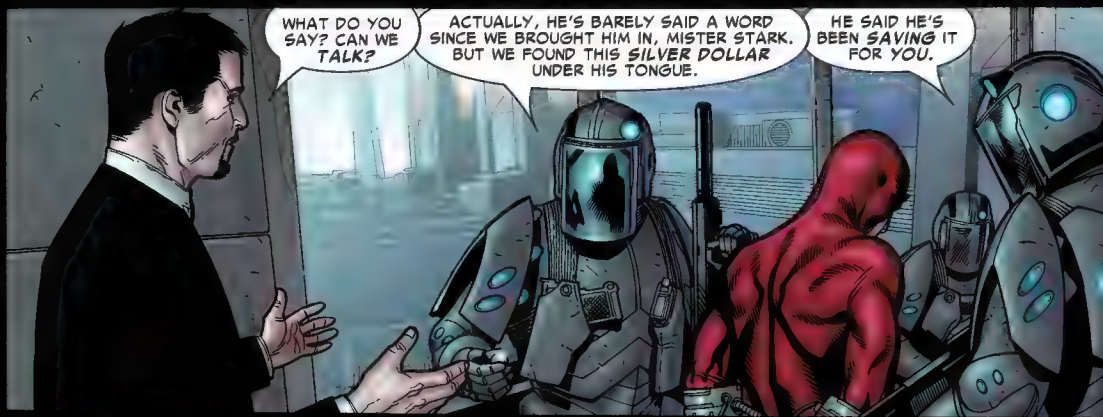
THE NEGATIVE ZONE:

WE'VE BEEN WORKING ON THIS FOR MONTHS, CREATING NEW SUPER HEROES AND REVAMPING ANYONE WHO WANTS TO JOIN US.

NATURALLY, YOU'D BE AT THE TOP OF OUR LIST IF YOU WERE INTERESTED. YOU COULD EVEN HAVE YOUR OWN TEAM.



NOBODY
WANTS TO
PUT YOU
IN JAIL.





WHOSE SIDE
...ARE YOU ON?

THE MARVEL UNIVERSE IS CHANGING. AFTER THE RASH ACTIONS OF FOUR YOUNG HEROES CAUSE THE DESTRUCTION OF STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT, A SUPERHUMAN REGISTRATION ACT IS PASSED, REQUIRING ALL THOSE POSSESSING PARANORMAL ABILITIES TO REGISTER WITH THE GOVERNMENT. REACTION AMONG THE SUPER HEROES IS SPLIT DOWN THE MIDDLE, WITH AN AWOL CAPTAIN AMERICA ON ONE SIDE AND A PRO-REGISTRATION IRON MAN ON THE OTHER. AFTER A BRUTAL BATTLE, MANY HEROES ARE LEFT INJURED, DISCOURAGED AND QUESTIONING WHERE THEY STAND. AS SPIDER-MAN DEFECTS FROM THE PRO-REGISTRATION SIDE, IRON MAN REVEALS THE NEWEST ELEMENT OF HIS PLAN: A MASSIVE PRISON COMPLEX LOCATED INSIDE THE EXTRADIMENSIONAL NEGATIVE ZONE!

CIVIL WAR

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6

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After a brutal battle, Bill Foster--the anti-registration hero known as Goliath--has been killed. Other members of Captain America's resistance have been captured and brought to the pro-registration faction's holding facility in the Negative Zone. Both sides have retreated in order to regroup and plan their next move.

Many heroes have been left injured, discouraged, and questioning where they stand. While some of Captain America's allies have joined with Tony Stark, Spider-Man has left the pro-registration side. Jack O'Lantern and the Jester--members of a newer and more vicious Thunderbolts team--were sent to track down Spider-Man. After nearly killing him, the villains were gunned down by the Punisher, who took Spider-Man's battered body back to one of Captain America's safehouses. The resistance now has Frank Castle on their side.



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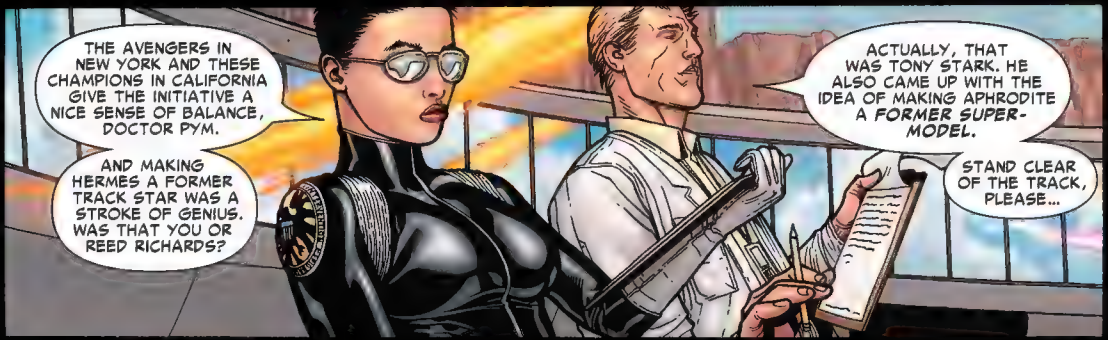
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S.H.I.E.L.D. BASE, ARIZONA:



CAN WE STILL
CALL HIM HERCULES
WHEN THERE'S ALREADY
A HERCULES OUT
THERE?

FORTUNATELY, GREEK
GODS AREN'T ESPECIALLY
LITIGIOUS, COMMANDER
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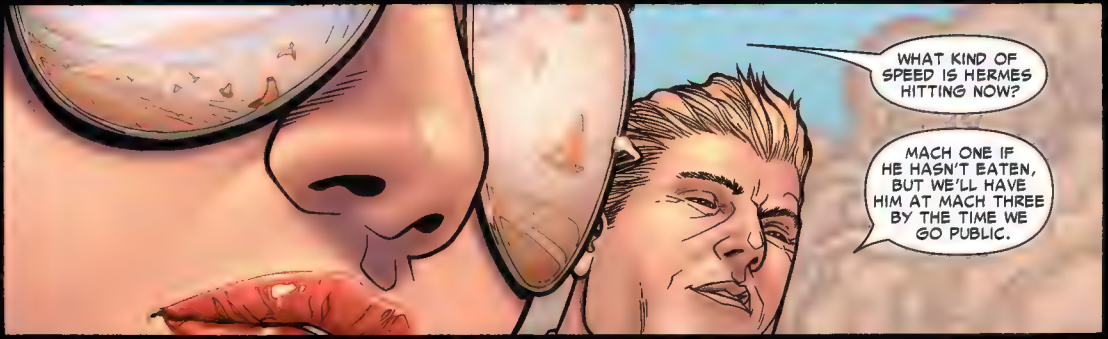


THE AVENGERS IN NEW YORK AND THESE CHAMPIONS IN CALIFORNIA GIVE THE INITIATIVE A NICE SENSE OF BALANCE, DOCTOR PYM.

AND MAKING HERMES A FORMER TRACK STAR WAS A STROKE OF GENIUS. WAS THAT YOU OR REED RICHARDS?

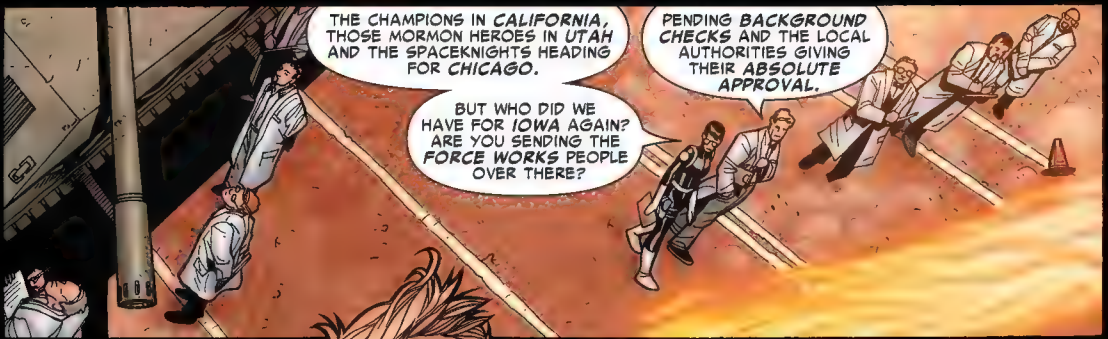
ACTUALLY, THAT WAS TONY STARK. HE ALSO CAME UP WITH THE IDEA OF MAKING APHRODITE A FORMER SUPER-MODEL.

STAND CLEAR OF THE TRACK, PLEASE...



WHAT KIND OF SPEED IS HERMES HITTING NOW?

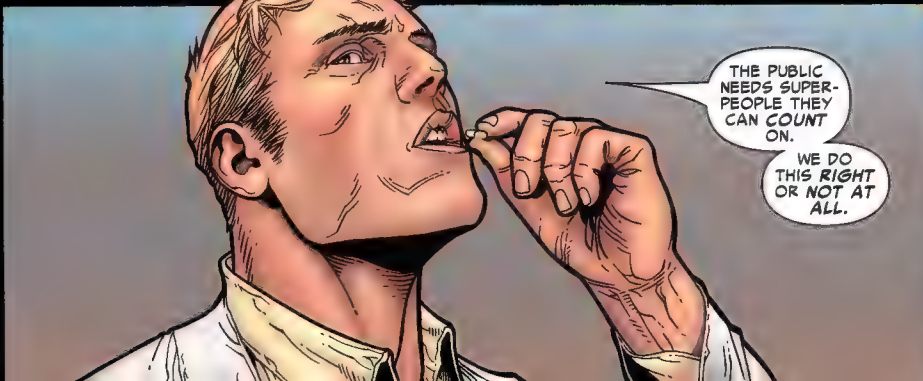
MACH ONE IF HE HASN'T EATEN, BUT WE'LL HAVE HIM AT MACH THREE BY THE TIME WE GO PUBLIC.



THE CHAMPIONS IN CALIFORNIA, THOSE MORMON HEROES IN UTAH AND THE SPACEKNIGHTS HEADING FOR CHICAGO.

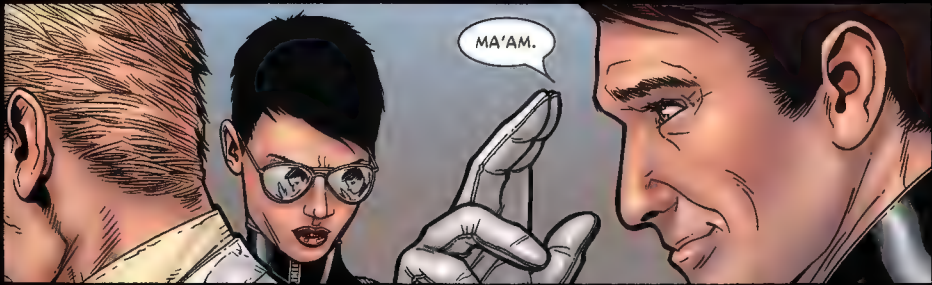
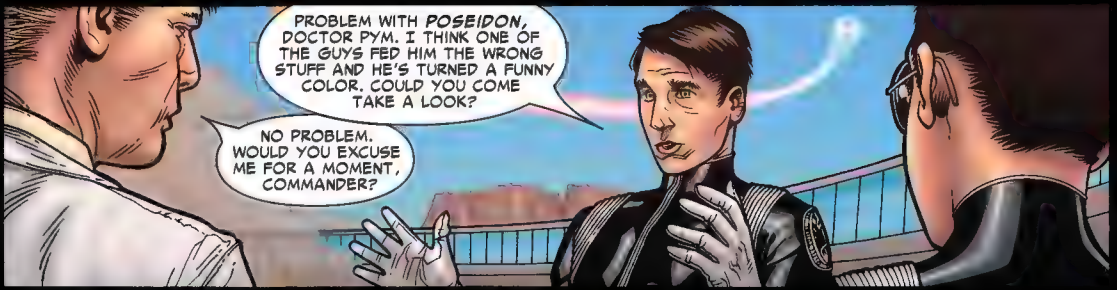
BUT WHO DID WE HAVE FOR IOWA AGAIN? ARE YOU SENDING THE FORCE WORKS PEOPLE OVER THERE?

PENDING BACKGROUND CHECKS AND THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES GIVING THEIR ABSOLUTE APPROVAL.

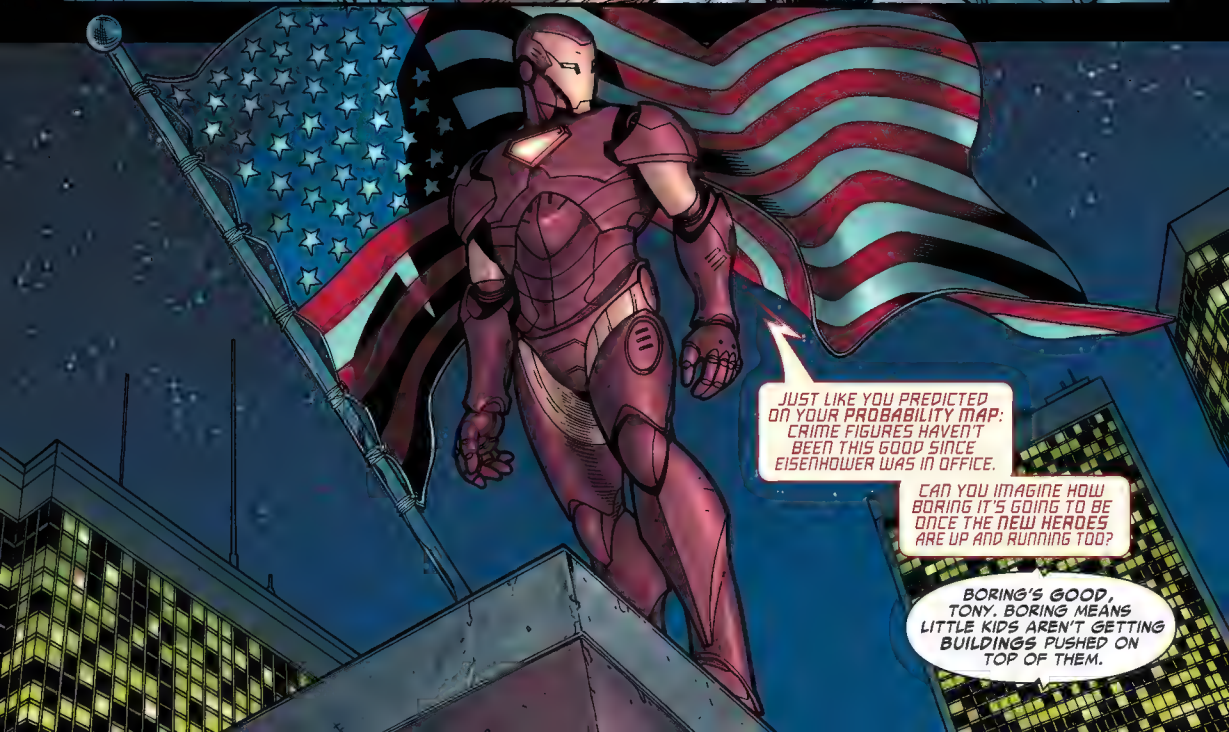
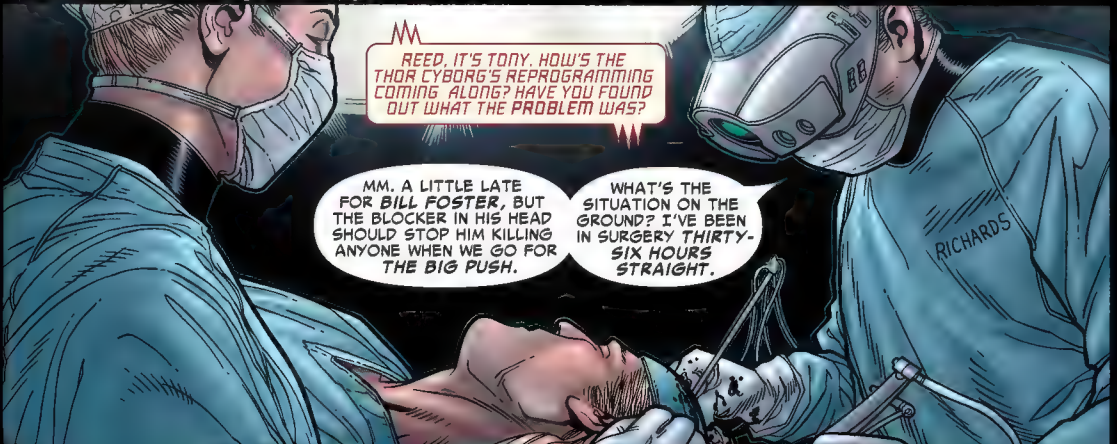


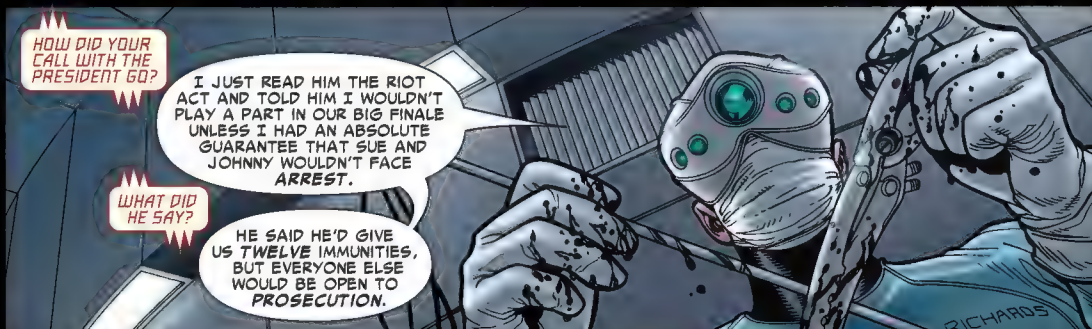
THE PUBLIC NEEDS SUPER-PEOPLE THEY CAN COUNT ON.

WE DO THIS RIGHT OR NOT AT ALL.



THE BAXTER BUILDING:





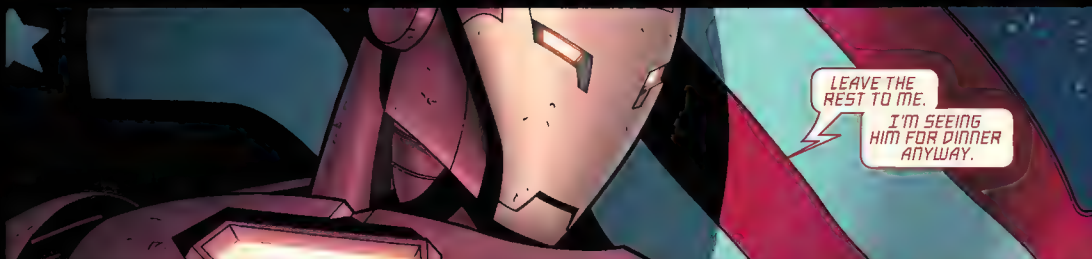
HOW DID YOUR
CALL WITH THE
PRESIDENT GO?

I JUST READ HIM THE RIOT
ACT AND TOLD HIM I WOULDN'T
PLAY A PART IN OUR BIG FINALE
UNLESS I HAD AN ABSOLUTE
GUARANTEE THAT SUE AND
JOHNNY WOULDN'T FACE
ARREST.

WHAT DID
HE SAY?

HE SAID HE'D GIVE
US TWELVE IMMUNITIES,
BUT EVERYONE ELSE
WOULD BE OPEN TO
PROSECUTION.

RICHARDS



LEAVE THE
REST TO ME.

I'M SEEING
HIM FOR DINNER
ANYWAY.



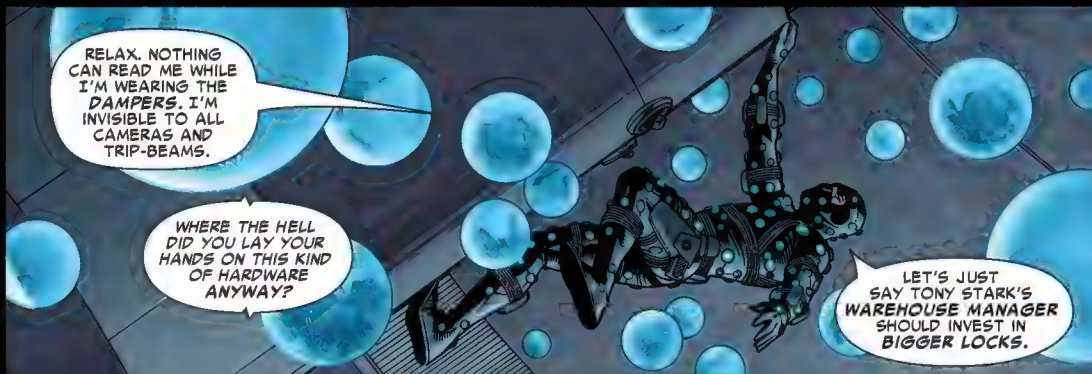
THE BAXTER BUILDING:

PUNISHER TO
CAPTAIN AMERICA:
JUST PASSED LEVEL
THIRTY-EIGHT AND
NONE OF THEIR
ALARMS HAVE
REGISTERED.

ONLY TWO
MORE STORIES
AND WE'RE IN
THERE, CAP.

CAREFUL, CASTLE.
YOU EVEN BRUSH AGAINST
ONE OF THOSE THINGS AND
THE WHOLE SYSTEM ATTACKS
YOU AS AN INVADING
ORGANISM.

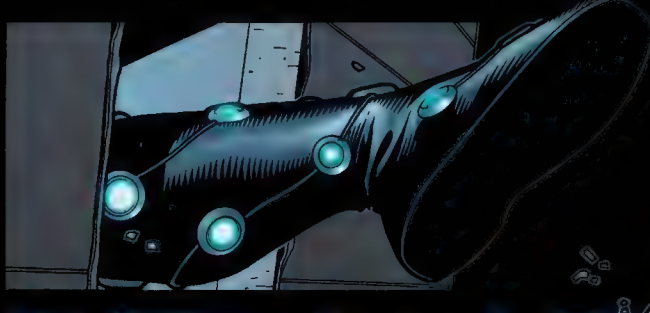
SUE SAID
REED BASED THEIR
SECURITY ON THE
HUMAN IMMUNE
SYSTEM THIS
MONTH.



RELAX. NOTHING
CAN READ ME WHILE
I'M WEARING THE
DAMPERS. I'M
INVISIBLE TO ALL
CAMERAS AND
TRIP-BEAMS.

WHERE THE HELL
DID YOU LAY YOUR
HANDS ON THIS KIND
OF HARDWARE
ANYWAY?

LET'S JUST
SAY TONY STARK'S
WAREHOUSE MANAGER
SHOULD INVEST IN
BIGGER LOCKS.

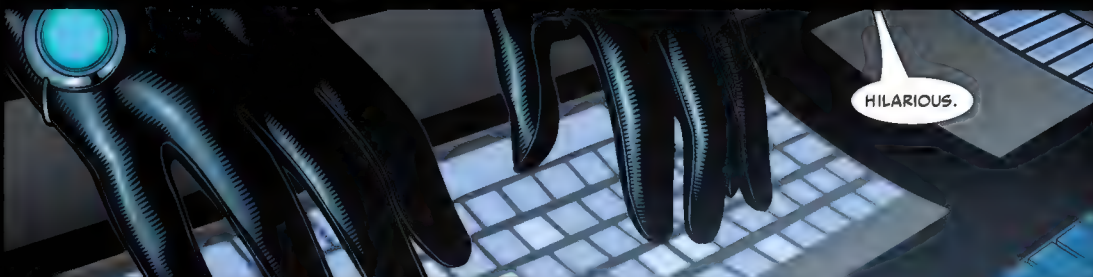


CAPTAIN AMERICA'S SAFEHOUSE:

OKAY, I'M
IN THEIR DATA-
HOUSE.

GOOD. NOW I NEED
EVERYTHING YOU CAN FIND
ON THIS NUMBER 42 COMPLEX:
THIS BIG SUPER-PRISON WHERE
THEY'RE HOLDING OUR GUYS IN
THE NEGATIVE ZONE.

I NEED THE **SIZE**,
HOW MUCH SPACE WE'LL
HAVE TO **MOVE AROUND**
AND HOW MANY **ACCESS**
POINTS THEY'VE BUILT.
THINK YOU CAN HANDLE
THAT WITHOUT SHOOTING
SOMEBODY IN THE
HEAD?



HILARIOUS.

UH-OH.

WHAT'S
UP?

THIS COMPOUND'S
GOT MORE PROTECTION
THAN ANYTHING I EVER SAW.
WE'RE GONNA NEED A LOT
MORE THAN YOUR TEAM OF
GRUNTS TO SPRING
THESE GUYS.

I'M ON IT,
CASTLE.

JUST KEEP
TYPING.

ATLANTIS:



THANK YOU FOR SEEING ME ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE, NAMOR. I KNOW YOUR COURT PREFERS TO FOLLOW ROYAL PROTOCOLS, BUT WE HAVEN'T GOT MUCH TIME.

THE REBEL TEAM'S RAID IS PLANNED FOR TONIGHT AND EVERYONE ELSE HAS TURNED US DOWN. HAVING YOU ONSIDE COULD MEAN THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WINNING AND LOSING.

YOUR MAJESTY.



WHAT?

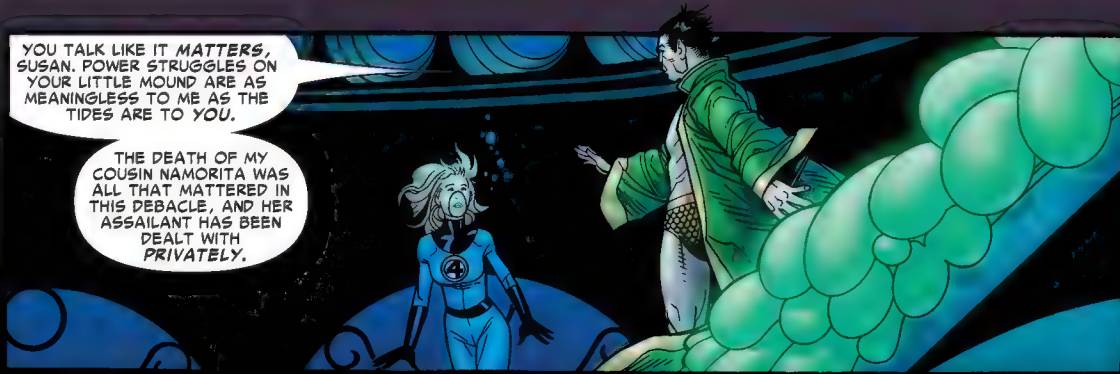
I BELIEVE THAT'S THE CORRECT TERM WHEN YOU'RE ADDRESSING A FOREIGN DIGNITARY, MRS. RICHARDS.



DON'T PLAY GAMES, NAMOR. THIS IS THE GRAVEST CRISIS WE'VE EVER FACED. THEY'VE ISSUED A **SUPERHUMAN DRAFT**, AND THEY'RE IMPRISONING PEOPLE WHO DON'T COMPLY.

CAN YOU BELIEVE THEY'RE ACTUALLY RECRUITING **SUPER-VILLAINS** TO BRING US IN?





YOU TALK LIKE IT MATTERS, SUSAN. POWER STRUGGLES ON YOUR LITTLE MOUND ARE AS MEANINGLESS TO ME AS THE TIDES ARE TO YOU.

THE DEATH OF MY COUSIN NAMORITA WAS ALL THAT MATTERED IN THIS DEBACLE, AND HER ASSAILANT HAS BEEN DEALT WITH PRIVATELY.

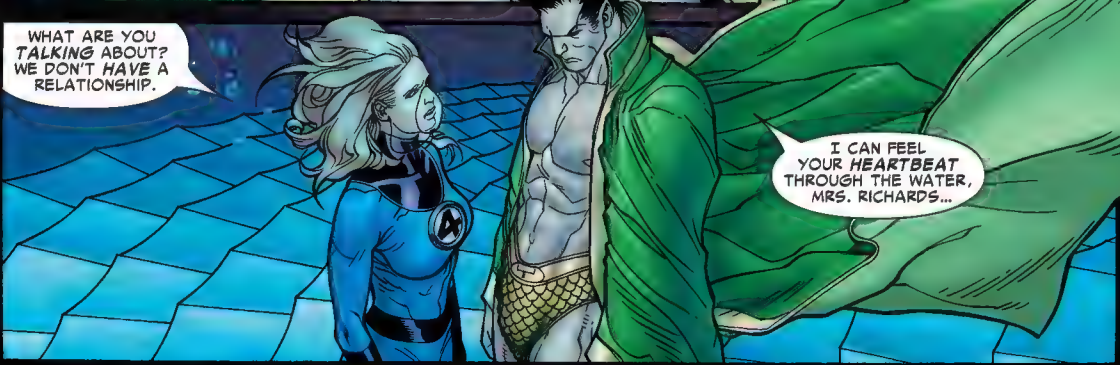


BUT CAP'S ONE OF YOUR OLDEST FRIENDS. YOU'VE KNOWN HIM LONGER THAN ANYONE.



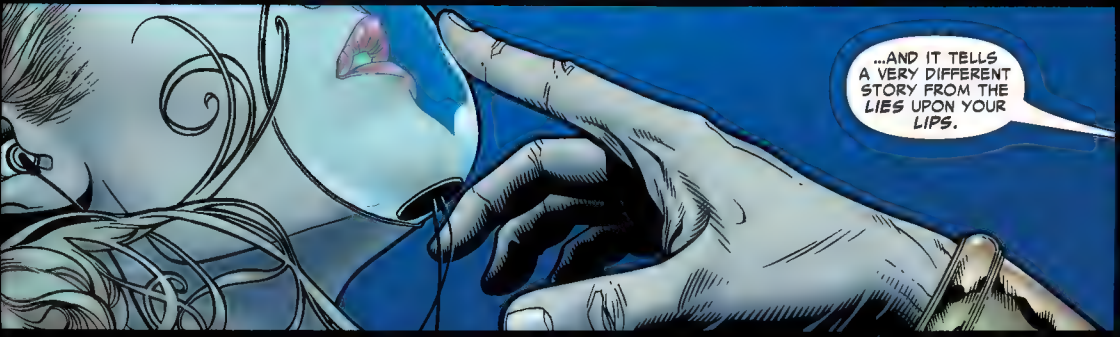
AND WHERE IS THIS FRIEND NOW? TRYING TO MAKE DEALS WITH THE X-MEN OR STEPHEN STRANGE WHILE HE SENDS YOU HERE WITH YOUR PUPPY-DOG EYES?

TELL THIS NEW MASTER OF YOURS I HAVE NO INTEREST IN HELPING A MAN WHO WOULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR UNIQUE RELATIONSHIP.



WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? WE DON'T HAVE A RELATIONSHIP.

I CAN FEEL YOUR HEARTBEAT THROUGH THE WATER, MRS. RICHARDS...



...AND IT TELLS A VERY DIFFERENT STORY FROM THE LIES UPON YOUR LIPS.

THE SECRET AVENGERS:

SO WHAT
KIND OF **NUMBERS**
ARE WE LOOKING AT,
FALCON?

NAMOR SAYS NO,
WOLVERINE WON'T BREAK
RANKS WITH THE X-MEN,
AND DOCTOR STRANGE IS
STILL OUT OF **REACH**,
CAP.

THAT SAID, THE BLACK
PANTHER WAS VERY UPSET ABOUT
THE WHOLE **BILL FOSTER** THING
AND GAVE ME HIS ASSURANCE THAT
BOTH HE AND STORM WOULD
HAVE OUR BACKS.



HOW YOU DOING,
SPIDER-MAN? FEELING
BETTER?

NOT TOO SHABBY, CAGE.
STILL A LITTLE WOOLZY FROM
THE JACK O'LANTERN GAS BOMB,
BUT I'VE GOTTA SAY I'M
PSYCHED BEING BACK IN MY
OLD COSTUME.



IT GIVES ME A
GOOD FEELING
TOO, MAN. LIKE
THINGS ARE FINALLY
GETTING BACK
TO NORMAL. KNOW
WHAT I'M
SAYING?

JEEZ.
YOU TWO
WANNA GET
A ROOM?

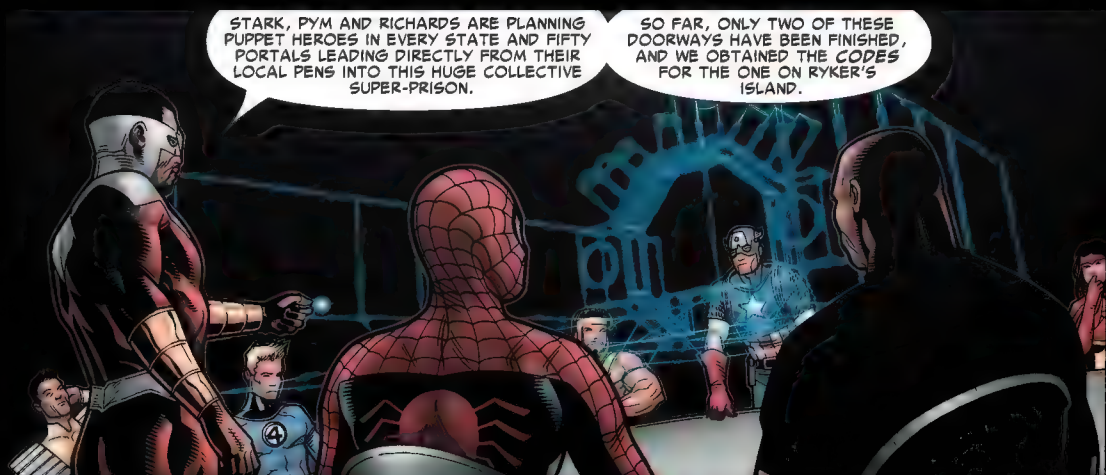
OOH! WHAT'S
UP, HONEY? YOU
JEALOUS?





OKAY, LET'S GET DOWN TO BUSINESS: THE PUNISHER GOT US ALL THE PLANS ON THE NEGATIVE ZONE PRISON, AND THE LAYOUT OF THE PLACE CAN BE FOUND IN THIS THREE-DIMENSIONAL SCHEMATIC.

OSTENSIBLY, IT'S FOR HIGH-RISK SUPER-VILLAINS, BUT AS YOU KNOW, REBEL SUPER HEROES ARE BEING HELD THERE TOO.



STARK, PYM AND RICHARDS ARE PLANNING PUPPET HEROES IN EVERY STATE AND FIFTY PORTALS LEADING DIRECTLY FROM THEIR LOCAL PENS INTO THIS HUGE COLLECTIVE SUPER-PRISON.

SO FAR, ONLY TWO OF THESE DOORWAYS HAVE BEEN FINISHED, AND WE OBTAINED THE CODES FOR THE ONE ON RYKER'S ISLAND.



BUT WE NEED TO MOVE FAST. OUR INTEL SUGGESTS THEY'RE PLANNING A HUGE ASSAULT WITH S.H.I.E.L.D. AND THE THUNDERBOLTS, SO TONIGHT IS OUR ABSOLUTE LAST OPPORTUNITY.

SPIDER-MAN, WE KNOW YOU'RE NOT IN THE BEST OF SHAPE RIGHT NOW, SO NOBODY'S GOING TO JUDGE YOU IF YOU SIT THIS ONE OUT.



NOT A CHANCE, CAP. I NEED TO DO SOMETHING TO MAKE UP FOR ALL THE BAD MOVES I'VE MADE LATELY.

BESIDES, NUMBERS BEING WHAT THEY ARE, I THINK YOU'RE GONNA NEED EVERY EXTRA PAIR OF HANDS.



ACTUALLY, NUMBERS MIGHT BE A LITTLE BETTER THAN WE ANTICIPATED. GOLDBUG? PLUNDERER? YOU WANT TO COME OUT AND TELL EVERYONE WHAT WE DISCUSSED?

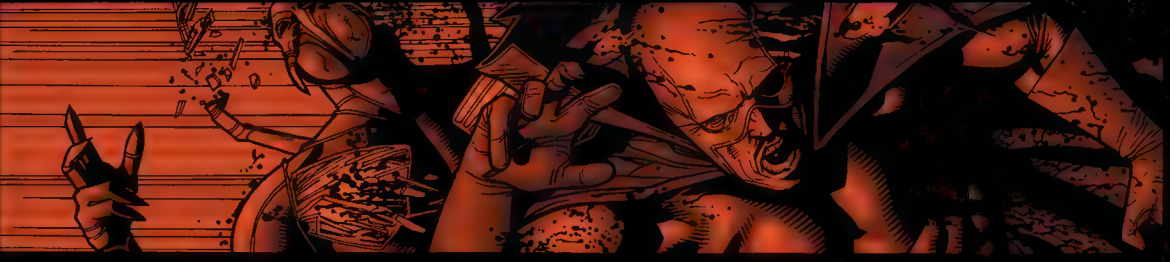
WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON HERE, DIAMONDBACK?

WHAT?



YOU GUYS AIN'T THE ONLY ONES SCARED WE'RE HEADING FOR A POLICE STATE, CAPTAIN. THE SUPER-CRIMINAL COMMUNITY'S MORE CONCERNED ABOUT STARK'S PLANS THAN ANYONE.

WE JUST CAME BY TO LET YOU KNOW WE'RE HERE IF YOU NEED US. ONLY FAIR IF IRON MAN'S GOT SUPER-VILLAINS ON HIS SIDE, RIGHT? WHADDAYA SAY?



WHAT?

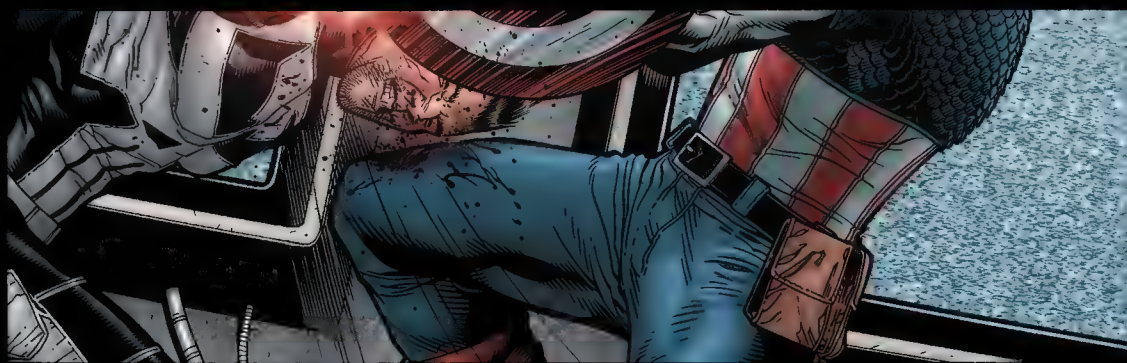
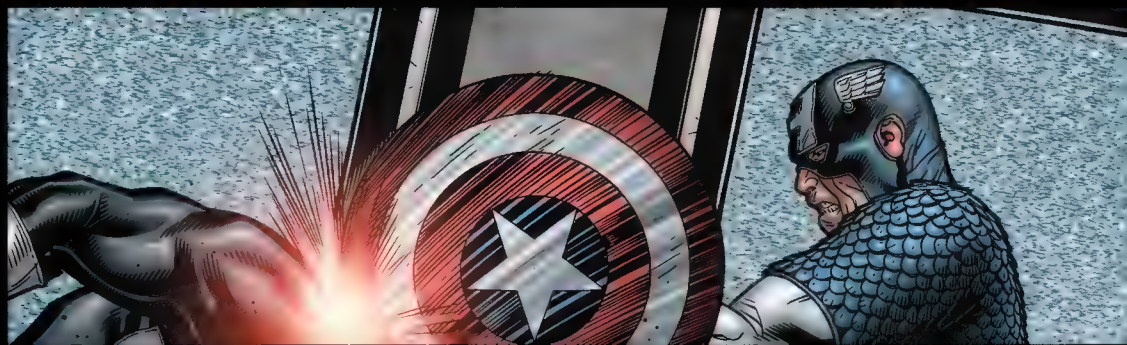
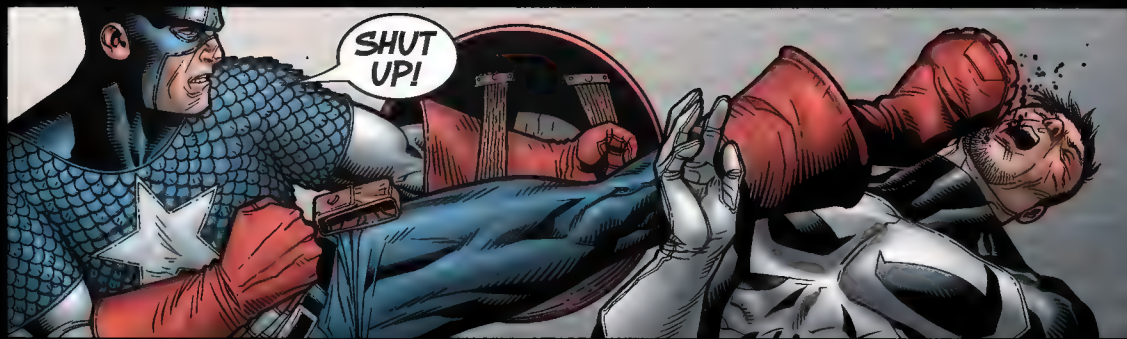


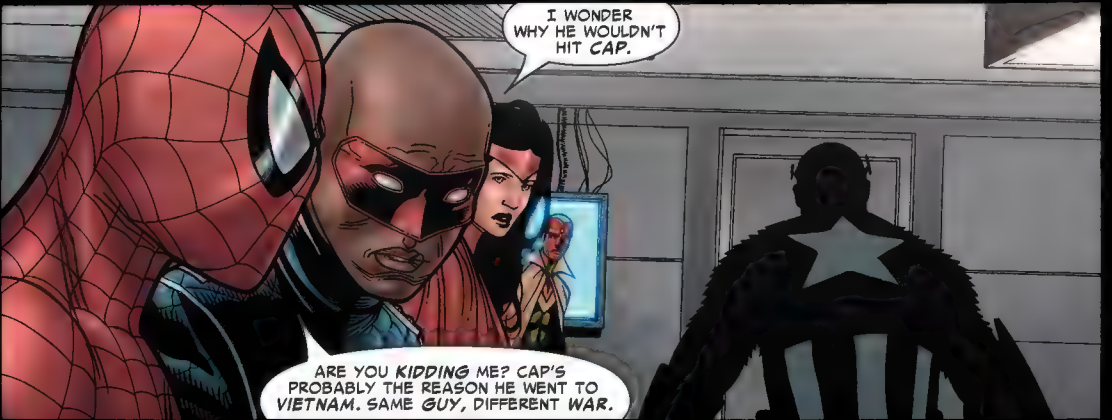
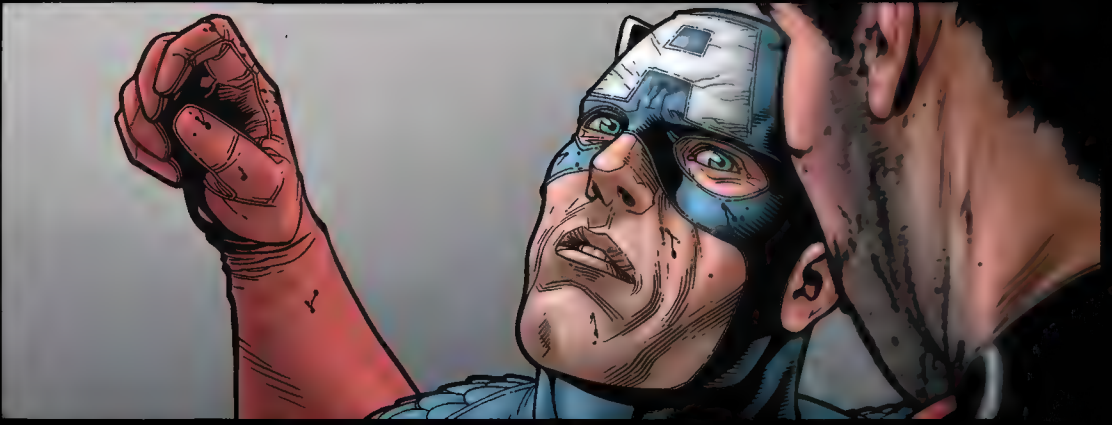
YOU
MURDEROUS PIECE
OF TRASH...

UNGH!



THEY WERE
BAD GUYS, CAP.
THIEVES AND
KILLERS...



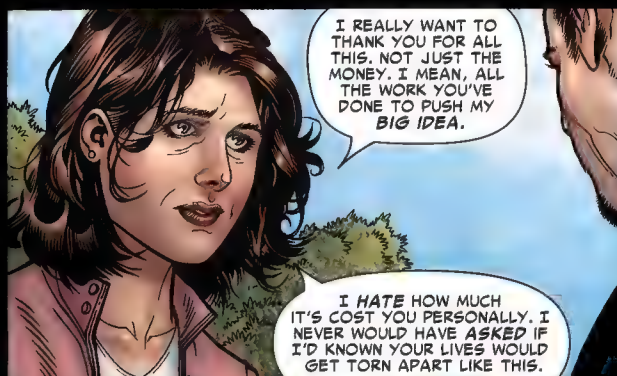


STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT:



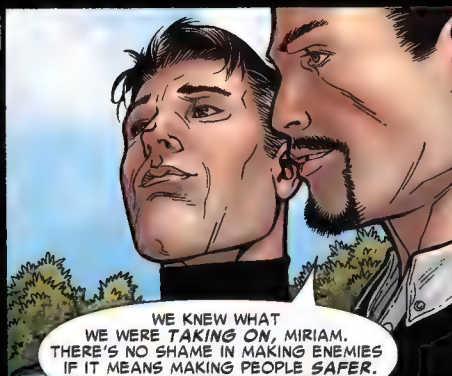
I HOPE YOU LIKE THE GARDENS WE BUILT IN THE CHILDREN'S HONOR, MIRIAM.

THEY'RE BEAUTIFUL, TONY. SO NICE TO HAVE A PLACE WHERE WE CAN COME AND SIT--Y'KNOW--WHENEVER WE'RE FEELING LONELY AND STUFF.



I REALLY WANT TO THANK YOU FOR ALL THIS. NOT JUST THE MONEY. I MEAN, ALL THE WORK YOU'VE DONE TO PUSH MY BIG IDEA.

I HATE HOW MUCH IT'S COST YOU PERSONALLY. I NEVER WOULD HAVE ASKED IF I'D KNOWN YOUR LIVES WOULD GET TORN APART LIKE THIS.



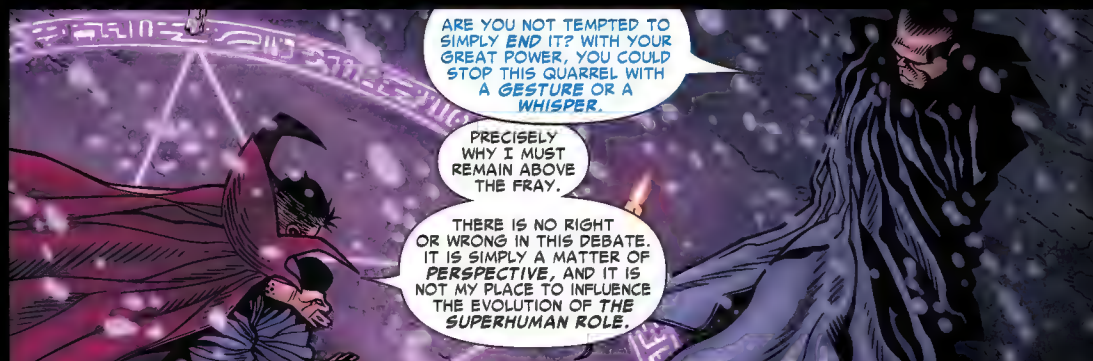
WE KNEW WHAT WE WERE TAKING ON, MIRIAM. THERE'S NO SHAME IN MAKING ENEMIES IF IT MEANS MAKING PEOPLE SAFER.

DR. STRANGE'S SANCTUARY, THE NORTH POLE:



HOW LONG SINCE YOU HAVE EATEN NOW, STEPHEN STRANGE?

JUST A LITTLE WATER SINCE THE CIVIL WAR BEGAN, UATU.



ARE YOU NOT TEMPTED TO SIMPLY END IT? WITH YOUR GREAT POWER, YOU COULD STOP THIS QUARREL WITH A GESTURE OR A WHISPER.

PRECISELY WHY I MUST REMAIN ABOVE THE FRAY.

THERE IS NO RIGHT OR WRONG IN THIS DEBATE. IT IS SIMPLY A MATTER OF PERSPECTIVE, AND IT IS NOT MY PLACE TO INFLUENCE THE EVOLUTION OF THE SUPERHUMAN ROLE.

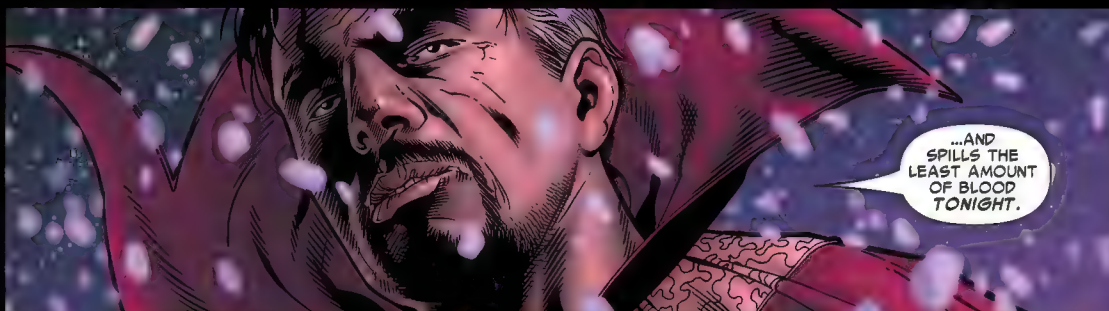


AS A WATCHER,
I AM MORE THAN
FAMILIAR WITH SUCH
DILEMMAS.



BUT TELL ME: WHY ARE YOU
FASTING IF YOU FAVOR NO SIDE?
WHAT OUTCOME ARE YOU
MEDITATING FOR?

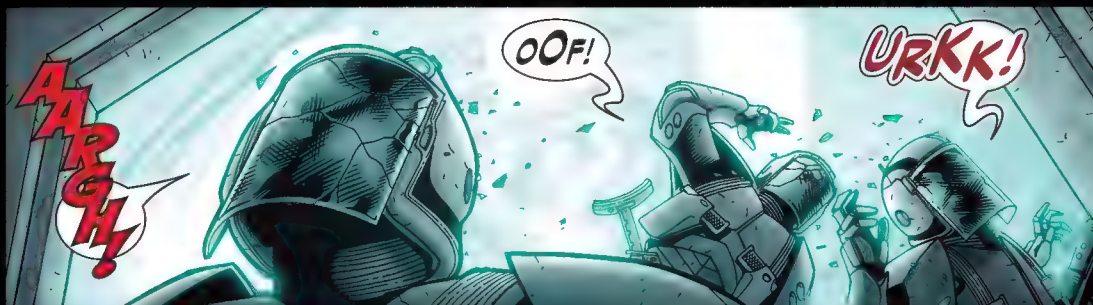
WHICHEVER
VICTORY IS BEST
FOR ALL MANKIND,
MY FRIEND ...



...AND
SPILLS THE
LEAST AMOUNT
OF BLOOD
TONIGHT.

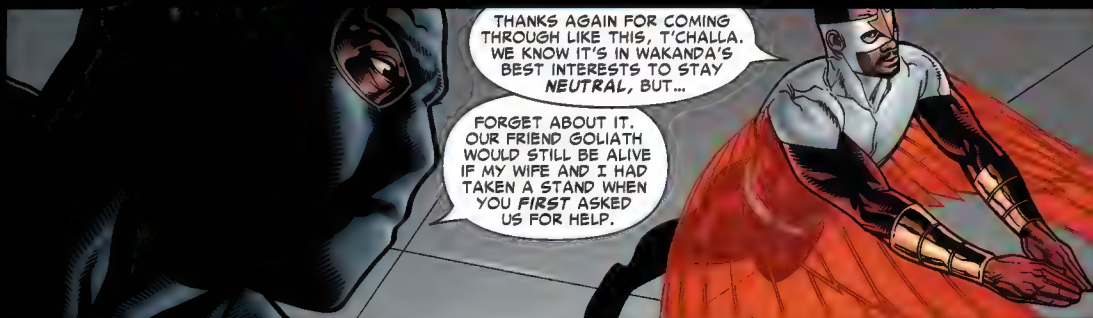
RYKER'S ISLAND PENITENTIARY:





THANK YOU, SUSAN. I THINK IT'S SAFE TO MAKE US VISIBLE AGAIN NOW THAT WE'RE THROUGH. PANTHER, WHAT'S THE SITUATION WITH PRISON SECURITY?

NEUTRALIZED FROM TOP TO BOTTOM, CAPTAIN--THOUGH I HATE TO THINK HOW LONG IT WOULD HAVE TAKEN IF WE HADN'T HAD MISTER FANTASTIC'S BLUEPRINTS.



THANKS AGAIN FOR COMING THROUGH LIKE THIS, T'CHALLA. WE KNOW IT'S IN WAKANDA'S BEST INTERESTS TO STAY NEUTRAL, BUT...

FORGET ABOUT IT. OUR FRIEND GOLIATH WOULD STILL BE ALIVE IF MY WIFE AND I HAD TAKEN A STAND WHEN YOU FIRST ASKED US FOR HELP.



WHAT'S WRONG?

MY SPIDER-SENSE IS GOING OFF THE SCALE! SERIOUSLY, THIS IS DEFCON ONE!



I'M NOT SURPRISED.









NOW CLOSE
YOUR EYES,
GENTLEMEN.

THIS
MIGHT
HURT.

TO BE CONCLUDED...



WHOSE SIDE...
...ARE YOU ON?

THE MARVEL UNIVERSE IS CHANGING. AFTER THE RASH ACTIONS OF FOUR YOUNG HEROES CAUSE THE DESTRUCTION OF STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT, A SUPERHUMAN REGISTRATION ACT IS PASSED, REQUIRING ALL THOSE POSSESSING PARANORMAL ABILITIES TO REGISTER WITH THE GOVERNMENT. REACTION AMONG THE SUPER HEROES IS SPLIT DOWN THE MIDDLE, WITH AN AWOL CAPTAIN AMERICA ON ONE SIDE AND A PRO-REGISTRATION IRON MAN ON THE OTHER. NOW, TWO ARMIES OF SUPER HEROES COME FACE-TO-FACE FOR A FINAL BATTLE THAT WILL DETERMINE THE DESTINY OF SUPERHUMANS IN THE UNITED STATES.

CIVIL WAR

MARK MILLAR

STEVE MCNIVEN

DEXTER VINES

MORRY HOLLOWELL

A MARVEL COMICS® EVENT IN SEVEN PARTS

MARVEL®

7

CIVIL WAR

A Superhuman Registration Act has been passed which requires all individuals possessing paranormal abilities to register with the government. Those who do not register are considered criminals. Some heroes, such as Iron Man, see this as a natural evolution of the role of superhumans in society and a reasonable request. But Captain America has gathered an underground resistance movement against the new law.

As conflicts rage and tensions rise, heroes on both sides change their allegiances, switching between the pro- and anti-registration camps. Finally, the resistance mounts an attack on the pro-registration faction's holding facility in the Negative Zone. But Iron Man and his forces are lying in ambush.

The battle is joined...



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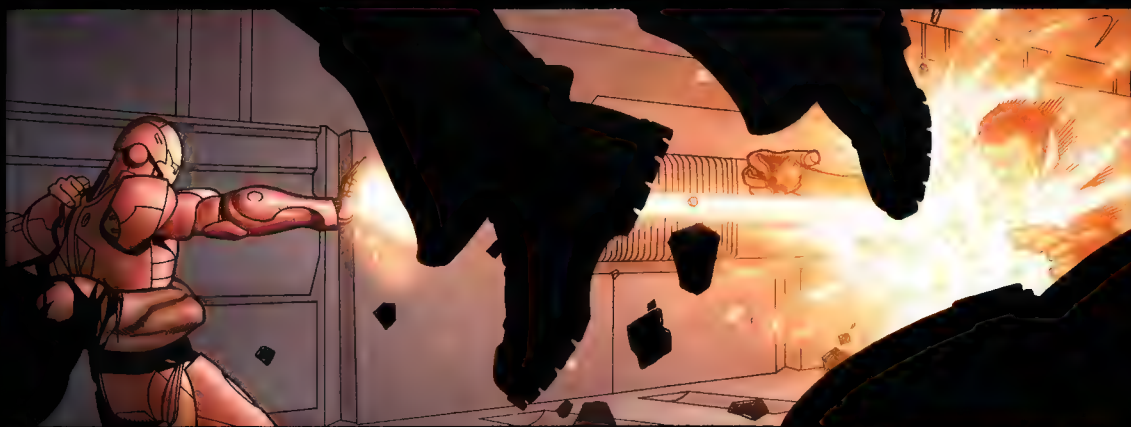
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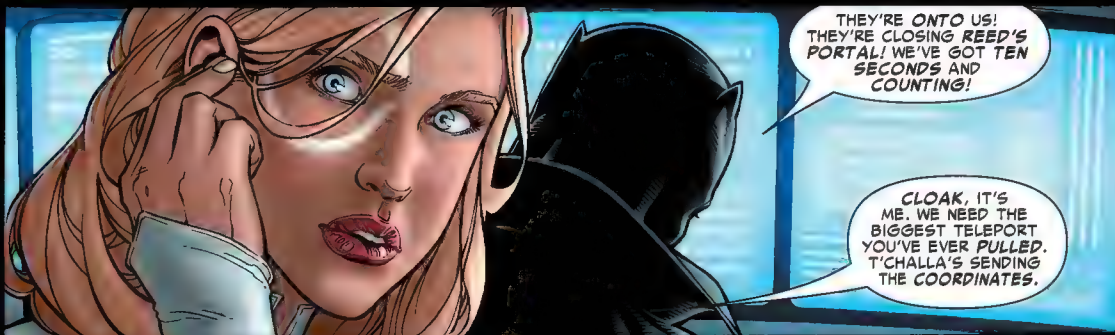
THE NEGATIVE ZONE:

**AVENGERS
ASSEMBLE!**





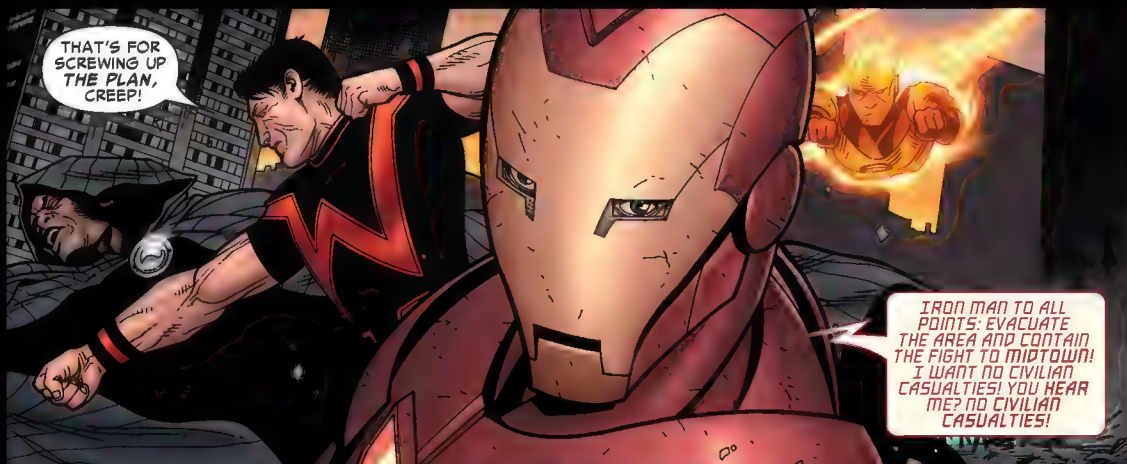


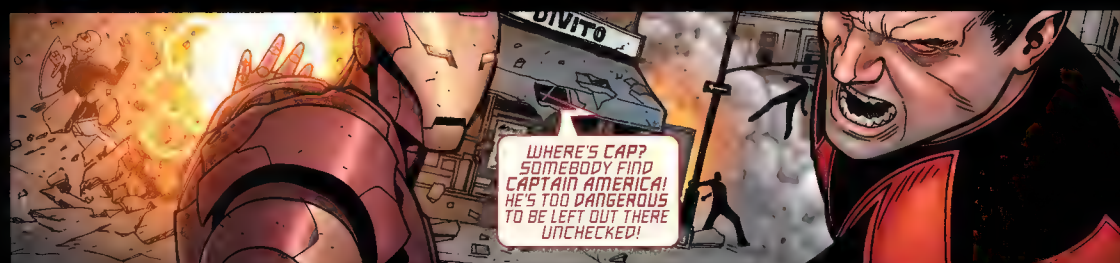


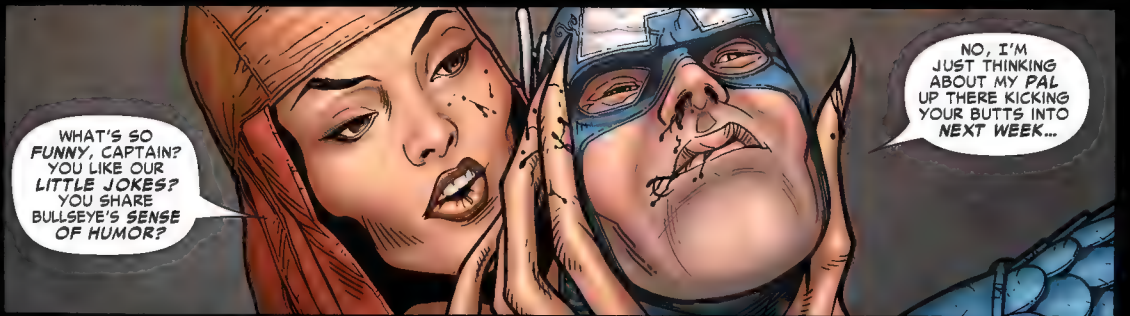
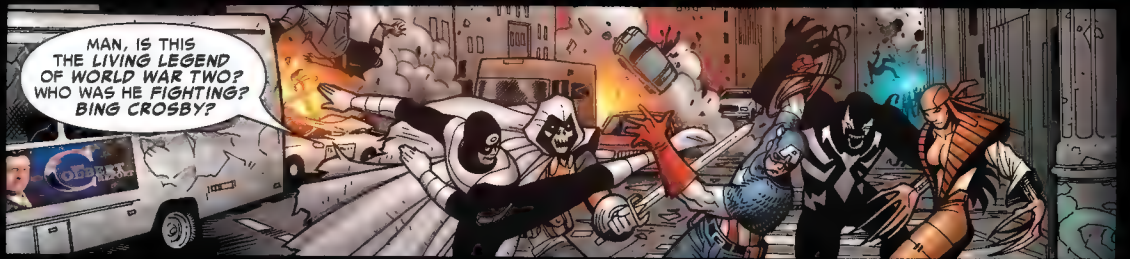
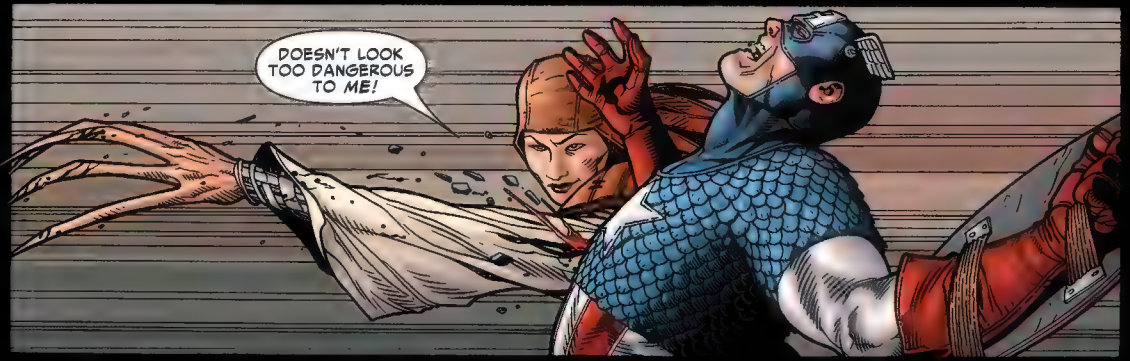


OUTSIDE THE BAXTER BUILDING,
NEW YORK:

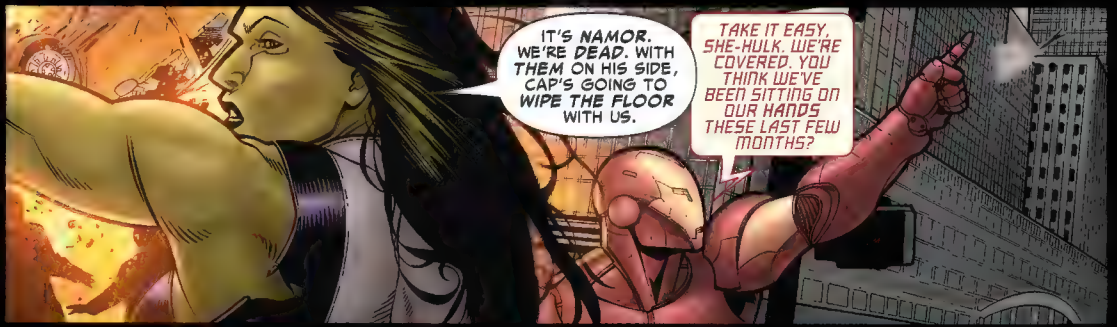






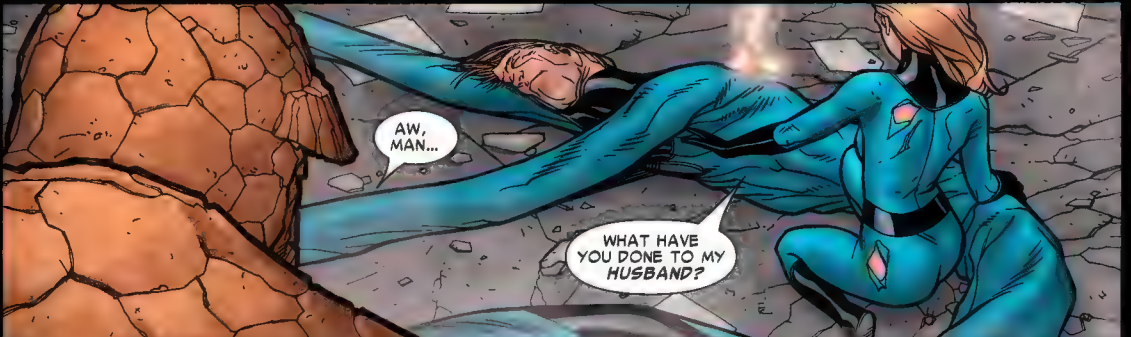
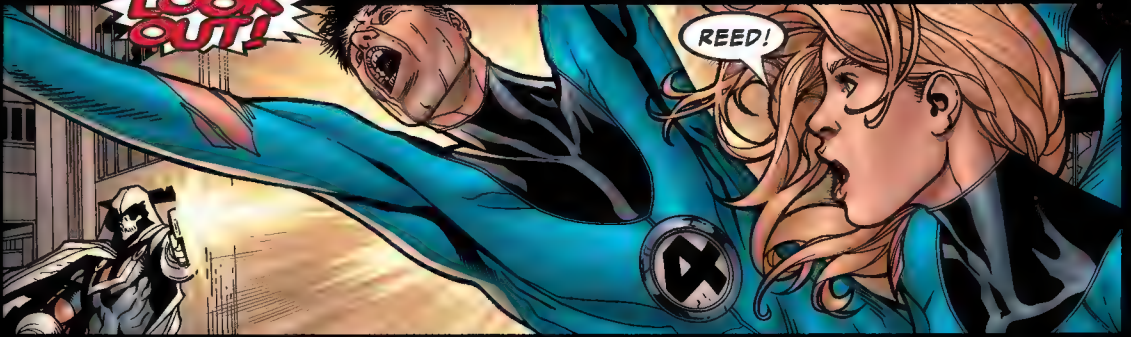
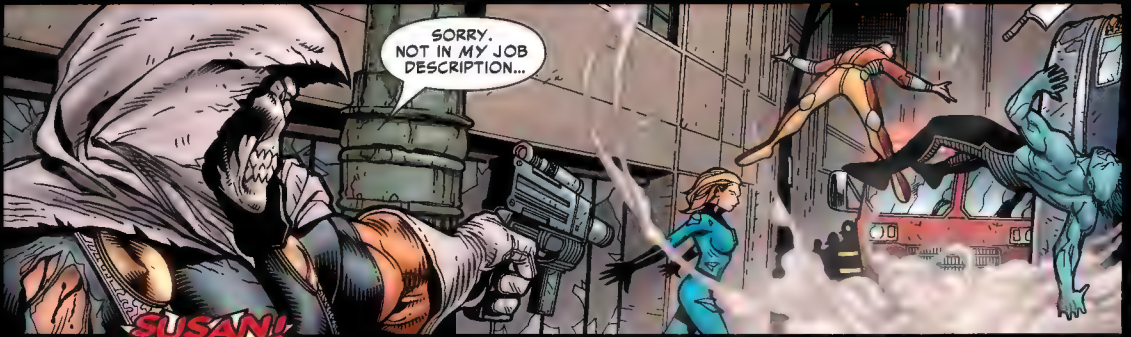
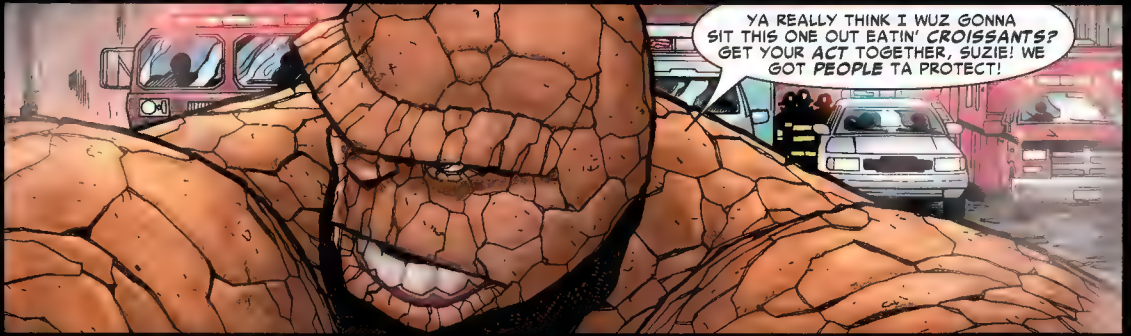
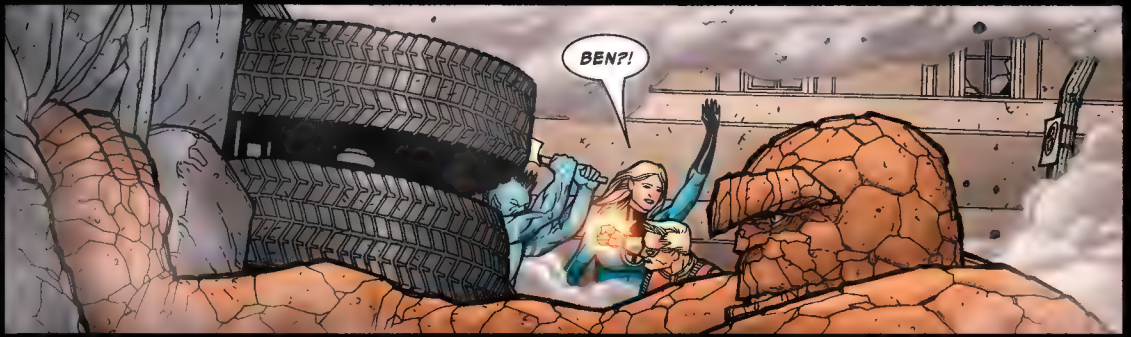










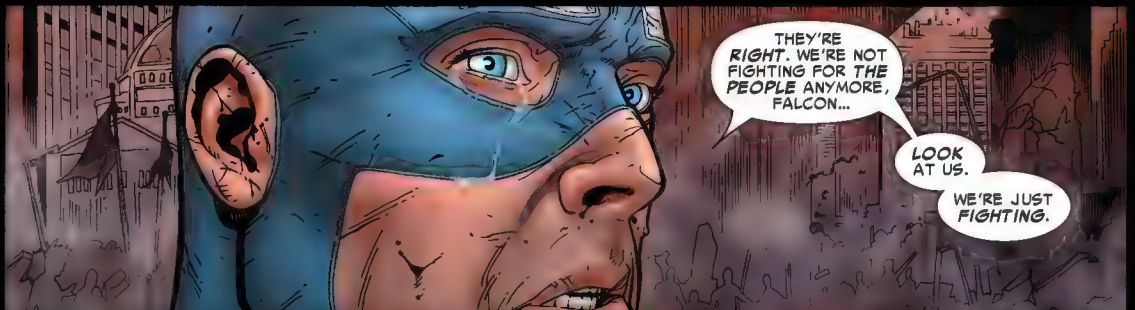
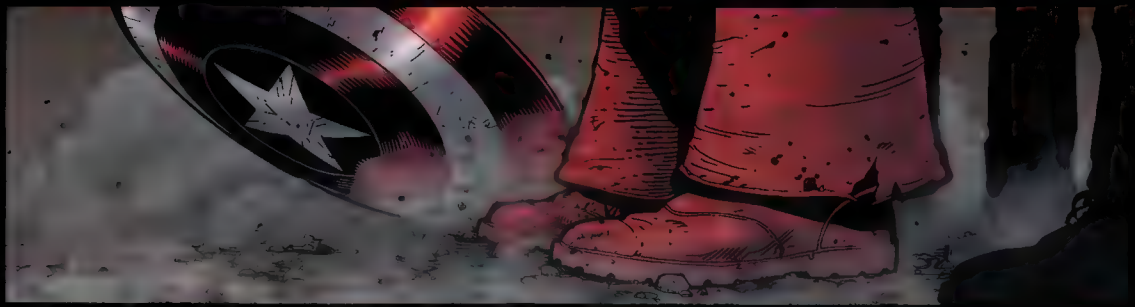


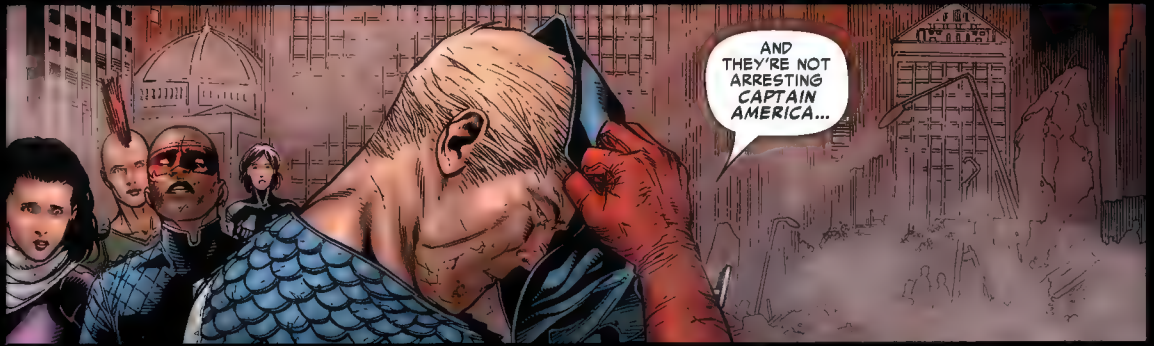


**THOU
ART NO
THOR!**











THAT'S AN
ORDER.



MY DEAR, SWEET SUSAN:

FORGIVE MY ERRATIC HANDWRITING. YOU KNOW HOW DIFFICULT I FIND SLOWING MY THOUGHTS TO A SPEED WHERE THE HUMAN HAND CAN TRANSLATE MY SENTIMENTS INTO LINEAR SENTENCES.

IT HAS BEEN TWO WEEKS NOW SINCE THAT TERRIBLE BATTLE AND I WAS PLEASED TO SEE THAT YOU ACCEPTED THE GENERAL HERO AMNESTY GIVEN IN THE WAKE OF CAPTAIN AMERICA'S SURRENDER.





I SAW YOU DURING THE CLEANUP, BUT FELT IT WAS INAPPROPRIATE TO DISCUSS OUR FUTURE WHILE OUR ADRENAL GLANDS MIGHT STILL IMPAIR OUR JUDGMENT IN ROMANTIC MATTERS.

YOU LOOKED SO BEAUTIFUL. SO VIBRANT AND CLEAR-EYED. I CRIED FOR A FULL NINETY-THREE MINUTES WHEN I RETURNED HOME THAT NIGHT.



BY NOW, YOU WILL HAVE SEEN THE LAUNCH OF THE INITIATIVE...

...AT LEAST ONE SUPER-TEAM IN EVERY U.S. STATE.



I'M SURE YOU CAN APPRECIATE THE PRESSURE WE WERE UNDER...

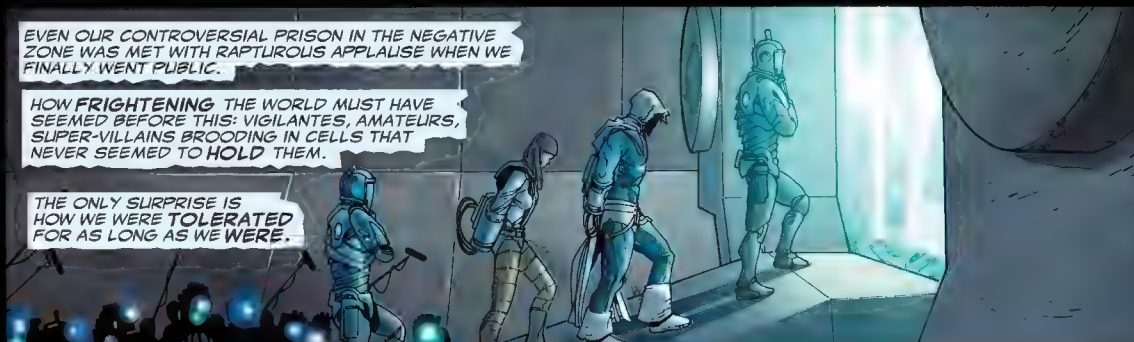
...CREATING NEW HEROES, REVAMPING OLD ONES...

...DECENTRALIZING THIS COMMUNITY FROM A SINGLE COAST AND BUILDING A SUPER-POWER FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY.

EVEN OUR CONTROVERSIAL PRISON IN THE NEGATIVE ZONE WAS MET WITH RAPTUREOUS APPLAUSE WHEN WE FINALLY WENT PUBLIC.

HOW FRIGHTENING THE WORLD MUST HAVE SEEMED BEFORE THIS: VIGILANTES, AMATEURS, SUPER-VILLAINS BROODING IN CELLS THAT NEVER SEEMED TO HOLD THEM.

THE ONLY SURPRISE IS HOW WE WERE TOLERATED FOR AS LONG AS WE WERE.



OF COURSE, IT WOULD BE A LIE TO SUGGEST THAT EVERYONE IS HAPPY WITH OUR NEW ARRANGEMENT.

SOME HAVE MOVED TO CANADA IN THE HOPE OF A MORE OLD-SCHOOL CAREER...



...WHILE A SMALL BAND OF CAP'S FOLLOWERS REMAIN RADICALIZED IN THE UNDERGROUND MOVEMENT.



DIG THE OUTFIT, MAN.

THANKS.



NOT TO MENTION CAPTAIN AMERICA HIMSELF...



BUT ON THE WHOLE OUR EXPERIMENT HAS BEEN AN ENORMOUS SUCCESS. WHAT ONCE SEEMED LIKE OUR DARKEST HOUR HAS BEEN TRANSFORMED INTO OUR GREATEST OPPORTUNITY.

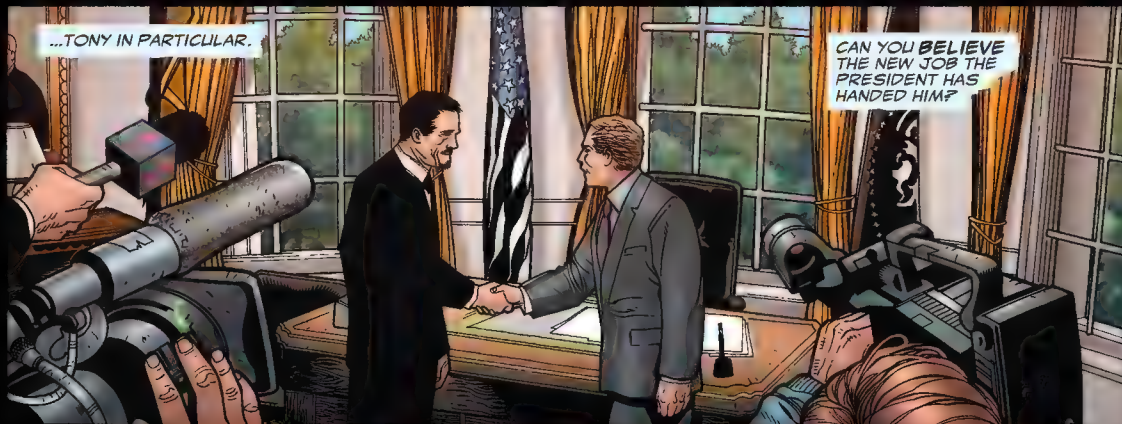
HANK PYM
HERO OF THE YEAR
ON HIS GLOBAL
REVOLUTION.

WORKING WITH THE GOVERNMENT, OUR REMIT HAS MOVED BEYOND SIMPLY LAW AND ORDER AND WE'RE NOW TACKLING EVERYTHING FROM THE ENVIRONMENT TO GLOBAL POVERTY...



...TONY IN PARTICULAR.

CAN YOU BELIEVE THE NEW JOB THE PRESIDENT HAS HANDED HIM?



BUT THE OPINION POLLS AND UTOPIAN IDEALS MEAN NOTHING UNLESS YOU'RE HERE BESIDE ME, MY DARLING.

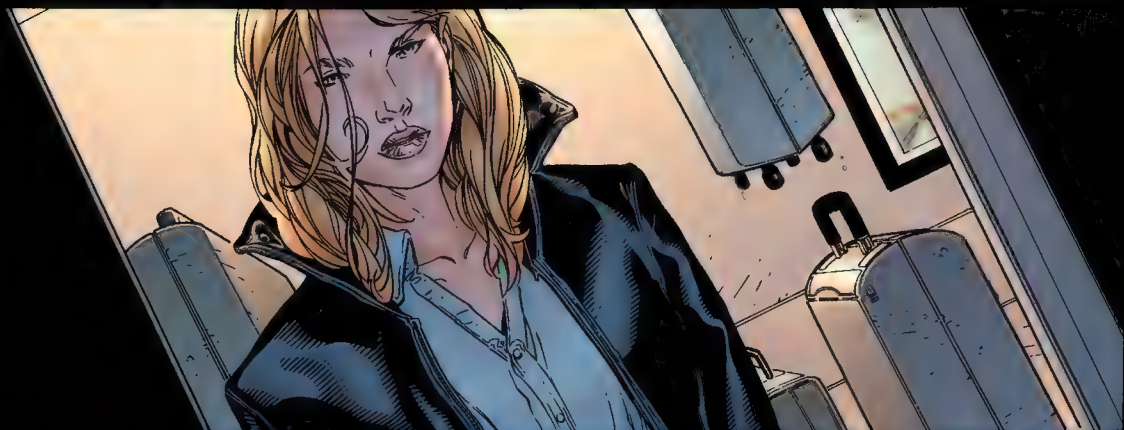
I PROMISE: NO MORE TRAPS. NO MORE CLONES. NONE OF THOSE PAINFUL THINGS WE HAD TO DO ON THAT PATH TO RESPECTABILITY.



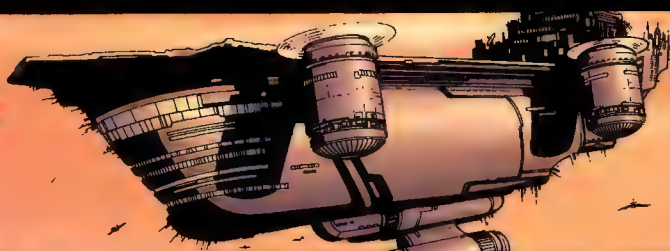
NO MATTER WHAT WE ACHIEVE IN THIS NEW AMERICA WE'RE TRYING TO CREATE...IT CAN NEVER BE HEAVEN UNLESS YOU'RE HERE TOO.

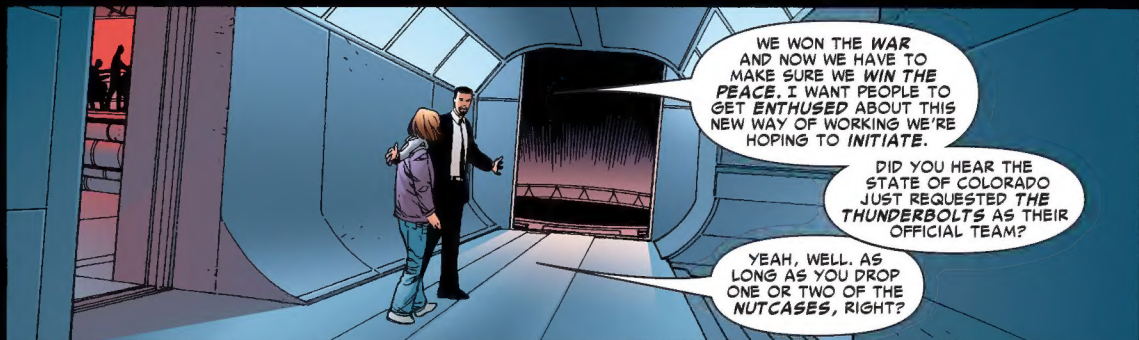
PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE COME BACK TO THE FAMILY WHO NEEDS YOU MORE THAN OXYGEN.





**THE S.H.I.E.L.D.
HELICARRIER,
FIVE MILES OVER
NEW YORK CITY:**

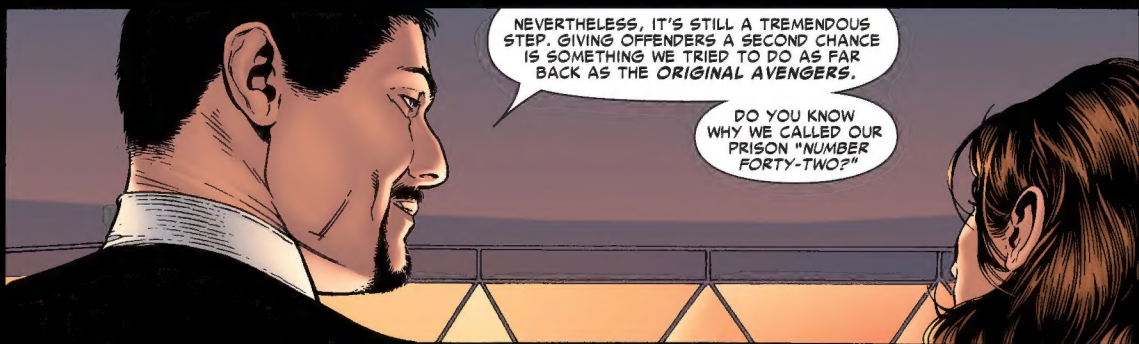




WE WON THE WAR AND NOW WE HAVE TO MAKE SURE WE WIN THE PEACE. I WANT PEOPLE TO GET ENTHUSED ABOUT THIS NEW WAY OF WORKING WE'RE HOPING TO INITIATE.

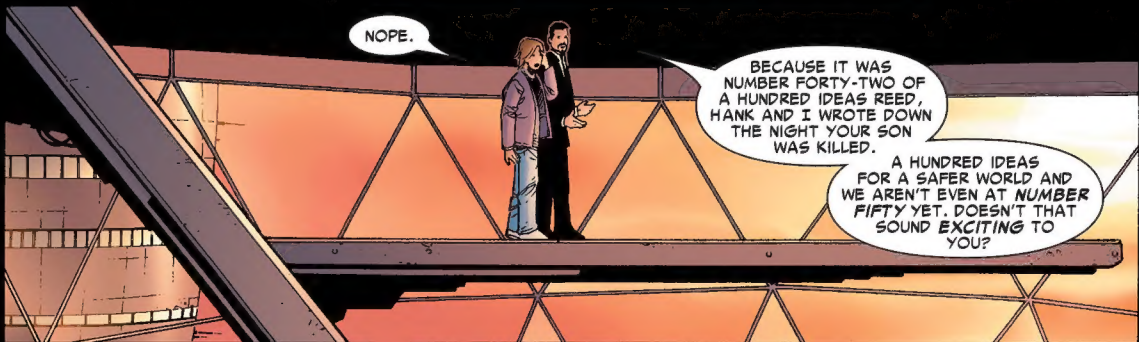
DID YOU HEAR THE STATE OF COLORADO JUST REQUESTED THE THUNDERBOLTS AS THEIR OFFICIAL TEAM?

YEAH, WELL. AS LONG AS YOU DROP ONE OR TWO OF THE NUTCASES, RIGHT?



NEVERTHELESS, IT'S STILL A TREMENDOUS STEP. GIVING OFFENDERS A SECOND CHANCE IS SOMETHING WE TRIED TO DO AS FAR BACK AS THE ORIGINAL AVENGERS.

DO YOU KNOW WHY WE CALLED OUR PRISON "NUMBER FORTY-TWO?"



NOPE.

BECAUSE IT WAS NUMBER FORTY-TWO OF A HUNDRED IDEAS REED, HANK AND I WROTE DOWN THE NIGHT YOUR SON WAS KILLED.

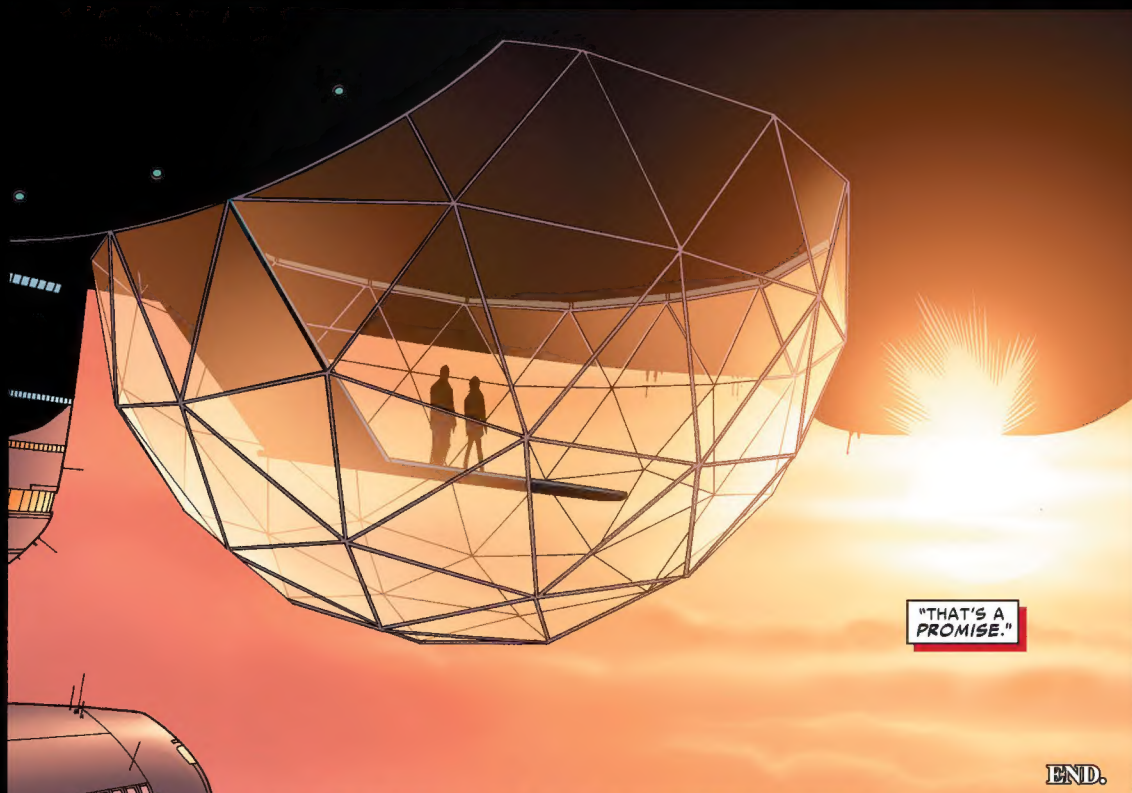
A HUNDRED IDEAS FOR A SAFER WORLD AND WE AREN'T EVEN AT NUMBER FIFTY YET. DOESN'T THAT SOUND EXCITING TO YOU?



CLEANING UP S.H.I.E.L.D. IS NUMBER FORTY-THREE.

BELIEVE ME, MA'AM: THE SUPER HERO COMMUNITY JUST FOUND THE GREATEST FRIEND THEY'LL EVER HAVE.

DO YOU REALLY THINK I'D LET ANYONE ELSE GUARD MY FRIENDS' SECRET IDENTITIES?



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